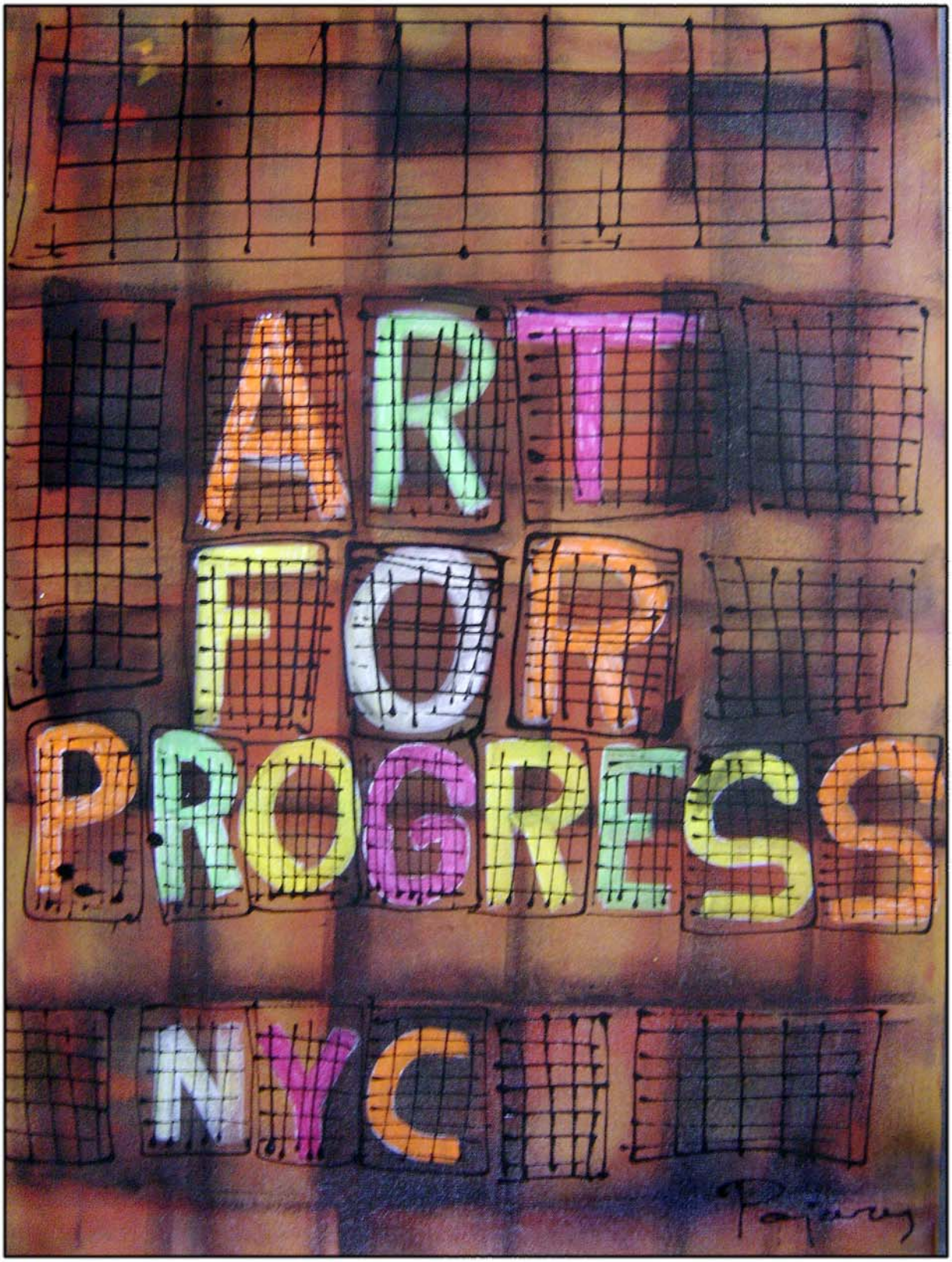

Art For Progress • 133 Mulberry Street, Ste 4W1 • New York, NY • 10013 • 212.475.4185 • www.artforprogress.org

ART FOR PROGRESS

Art For Progress is a 501(c)3 nonprofit arts organization committed to the cultivation and support of emerging artists working in diverse genres: the visual arts, fashion, digital multimedia, music, and new media. Based in New York, AFP seeks to increase the visibility of talented artists, to raise awareness of the importance of arts education in public schools, and to support those same arts through our comprehensive arts education program.

Besides offering opportunities through a variety of events (held in New York and beyond) and services, we offer artists, through our website, the tools and resources they need to educate and empower themselves as professional artists, working in real world, competitive markets.
Through the use of modern technology and comprehensive resources we seek to create an extensive educated artist community.

Since its inception in early 2004, Art For Progress has had a growing impact within the New York arts community. AFP continues to host enriching, culturally diverse events featuring a variety of visual art, music, fashion and new media. Through these events, the organization has raised funds for various arts education charities and programs, such as Art Start and the New York City Department of Education's music education program.

It is common knowledge that critical funding for K-12 arts education programs in the NYC public schools has drastically declined in recent years. Art For Progress is continually looking at ways of getting involved on a smaller scale in the short term in order to make an immediate impact.

Looking forward, Art For Progress plans to expand its marketing efforts for artists, as well as its role in arts education. AFP also hopes to open a dedicated gallery and event space in New York — a creative, educational environment where AFP artists will have the opportunity to showcase their work and interact with the public; and an educational setting where established artists, in connection with school programs, can teach children and nurture the next generation of successful artists. With the goal of providing support for creative youth and emerging artists, Art For Progress aims to play a pivotal role in sustaining the arts in New York and beyond.

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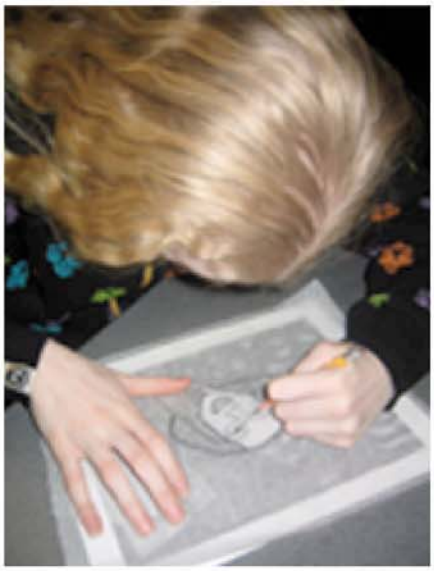
ART FOR PROGRESS: ARTS EDUCATION

Art For Progress has expanded its efforts to supporting education through the arts with its dynamic arts education program. This component of AFP aspires to encourage learning and self expression with art in underserved communities through instructional and interactive programs of various art disciplines, fostering the creative and intellectual growth of young people and positively affecting their personal, academic and social development.

With the decline of critical funding for K-12 arts education programs in the NYC public schools, Art For Progress looks to provide a creative and educational environment where curriculum is planned & facilitated by professional artists of various disciplines with a wide array of teaching experience and in connection with schools and community based programs, can teach youth skills and techniques, connect them to community and culture, and nurture the next generation of artists. As statistics consistently show how art education helps increase academic achievement, parental involvement, cross-cultural understanding, and educational success, Art For Progress recognizes the importance of art and creation as a valuable and necessary learning tool in the development of our youth and their communities.



AFP's Arts Education

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The New York Times

"Concrete Rose" ($13.98, Def Jam); Funkadelic's too-trippy "Cosmic Funkers" (Atom, $24.99 gets a domestic rerelease; and Synthphony, a New York-based elec-

pioneered. Ms. Siberry alienated some of her fans in the 90's, when she took a slight turn into New Age. Tonight the spiritually inclined and deeply earnest Ms. Siberry

Tickets remain for only a few hourlong performances at the Auditorium at Equitable, while over at the 13th Street Repertory Company, an abundance of

FRIDAY 12|17

HIGH SCHOOL STORY

Yes, it's a high school musical production. But it's La Guardia High School, the alma mater of Isaac Mizrahi and Jennifer Aniston, with the school's 45-member orchestra accompanying the appropriately aged cast members in "West Side Story." Gang war in a Manhattan school never looked so professional.
La Guardia Concert Hall, Amsterdam Avenue at 65th Street; 7:30 p.m.; $10 to $15. (Also on Saturday.)

MOVIES THIS WEEKEND: A SEA OF FILM

Dive in: In the wake of Wes Anderson's "Life Aquatic With Steve Zissou," the weekend is awash in biography-based, nautically titled films. But "The Sea Inside," the story of a quadriplegic who fought for the right to die, should absolute-

ly not be confused with "Beyond the Sea," the sanitized Bobby Darin biopic. In limited release, "Open My Heart," an Italian film about a prostitute and her possessive sister, opens at the Quad Cinema tonight. Tim Burton's "Nightmare Before Christmas" (1993) plays at the Sunshine Cinema at midnight tonight and tomorrow night — nice timing, as its influence on the current "Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortu-

nate Events" is palpable.

A DANCE SURPRISE

For the last two months, a group of young choreographers have workshopped together; tonight, they'll make their experiments — which are still being poked and prodded — public for the Kitchen's Dance in Progress performance. Chosen by the curator and choreographer Sarah Michelson, the performers will reflect her taste in always vigorous, sometimes rude, and often cinematic dance.
The Kitchen, 512 West 19th Street, Chelsea; 8 p.m.; $12. (Also on Saturday.)

TRIAL PERFORMANCE

Phoenix Theater Ensemble — created in September by five members of the Jean Cocteau Repertory, a small company de-

A scene from Tim Burton's 1993 film "Th

voted to classics, — introduces its first production tonight, André Gide and Jean-Louis Barrault's adaptation of Kafka's "Trial." There have been no fussy present-day updatings, no write-ins of Johnnie

SATURDAY 12|18

LAST CHANCE FOR LOVE

"Freestyle Love Supreme," a 60-minute live music, comedy, hip-hop amalgamation, stars six men in their mid-20's, professionals in the art of free-style rhyme. Its host, Anthony Veneziale, is a whirling comic M.C. who manages to involve the audience without humiliating them. Freestyle closes its run of frantic improvisations tonight.
Ars Nova Theater, 511 West 54th Street, Manhattan; 8 p.m.; $20.

Burning Man, Black Rock Desert 2003

"Tea With Ken," a photograph from the Burning Man festival in Nevada.

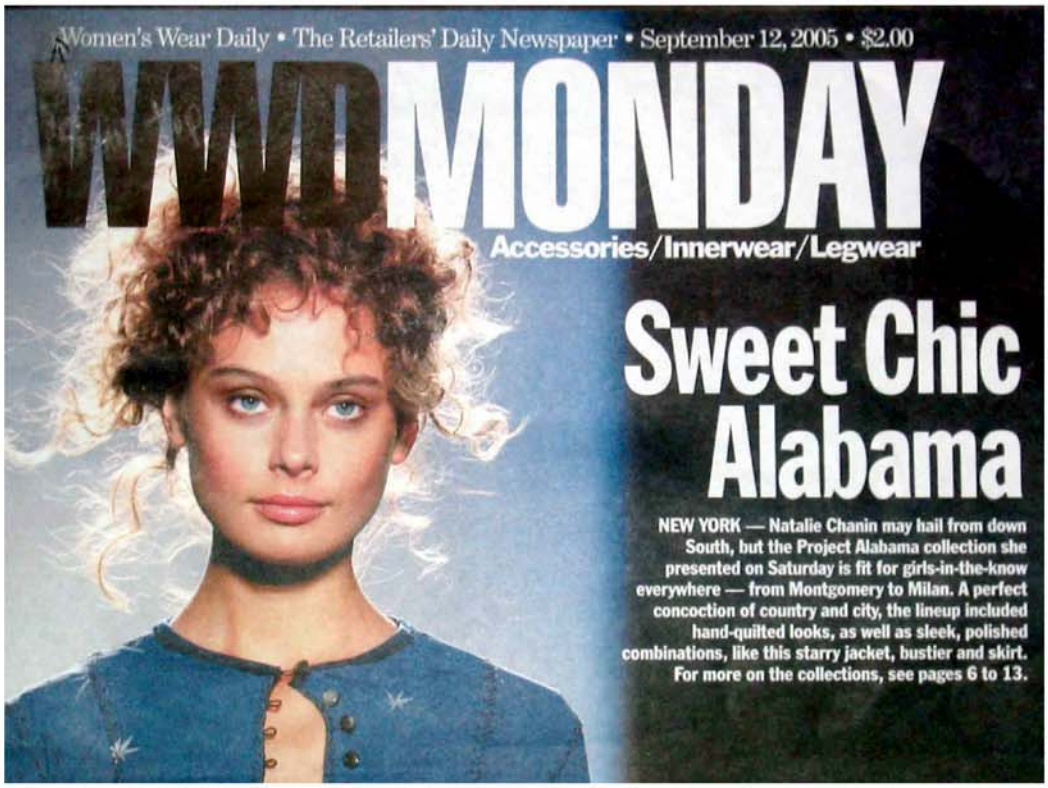
BURNING MAN

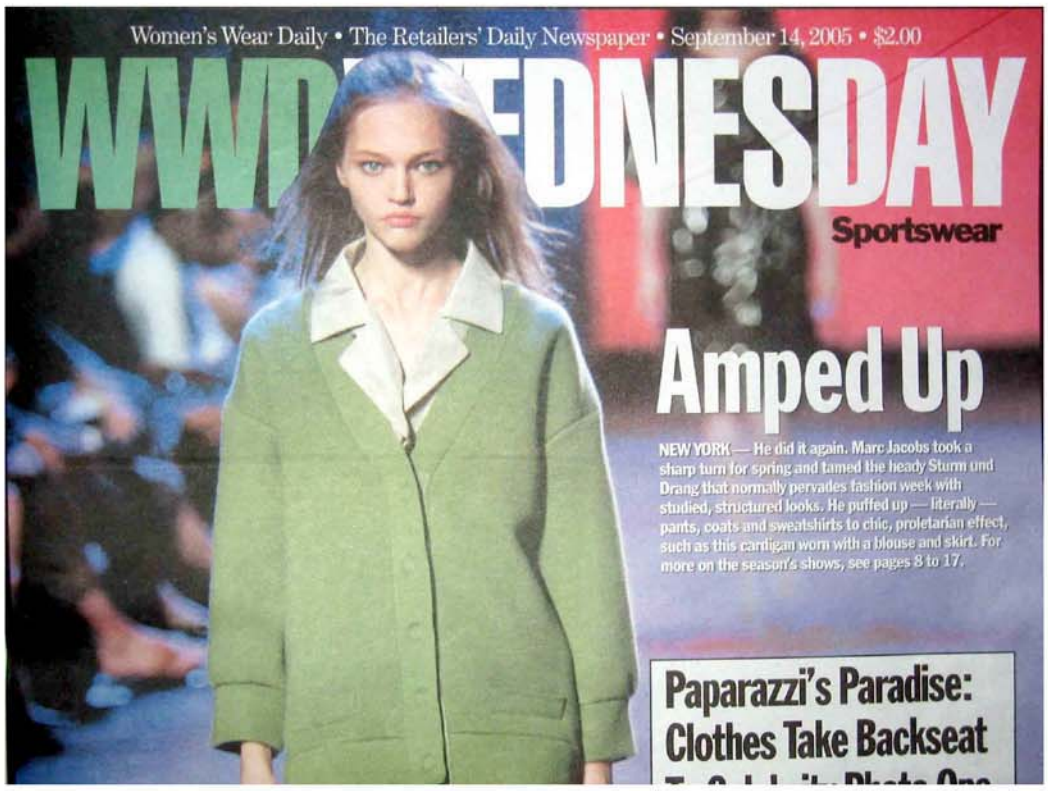
The photographer Gabe Kirchheimer brings a bit of heat to winter with his documentation of Burning Man, the wild festival that takes place each summer in the Nevada desert. The one-night exhibition takes place nightclub-style, with wine and live music, and is a benefit for Art Start, which conducts the Arts in the Shelters program, intended to build self-esteem, teach expression and provide mentoring for homeless youth in New York City.
20 Greene Street, SoHo; 7:30 p.m. to 1 a.m.; $30 suggested donation.

KID FRIENDLY PLAY

"Extraordinary," a 60-minute show

The New York Times: Arts and Leisure section features Art For Progress artist Gabe Kirchheimer's "Tea with Ken" in its listing for AFP's holiday fundraiser for Art Start, December 12, 2004





Women's Wear Daily (WWD), September 12 & 14, 2005

Pretty, Witty and Wise

What's the forecast for the upcoming season? Plenty of sun-kissed pieces that look extra sweet thanks to charming details and tailored accents.

new york

Of the three designers that presented at the Art for Progress group show, **Ashaka Givens** showed the most promise with her red carpet-ready gowns. The strongest looks were in navy blue and orange sherbet.

Women's Wear Daily (WWD), September 12 & 14, 2005

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NY Arts Catalog, Volume 11, 2006

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Z!NK

ART FOR PROGRESS

Committed to creating forums for emerging artists to showcase their work, Art for Progress welcomes all genres, all the time and uses their events to raise funds for art-related charities. This month they're producing an art exhibit/fashion show/live concert to benefit programs designed to preserve and expand music education in New York City. While the art exhibit spotlights the work of Spanish artist Juan Pajares, the fashion show will feature designs inspired by art, and concert headliners Brazilian Girls will use their jazzy-electro-pop-funk sound to keep everything and everyone moving. For more information visit ArtForProgress.com. — Joyce Davis

Artwork by Juan Pajares

ZINK Magazine, March 2005

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+umbrella magazine™

Clash of the Artists.
benefit for art for progress, march 3rd, 2007. new york city.

text stefanos tsigrimanis photography geraldine visco

Art for Progress is a New York based nonprofit arts organization committed to the cultivation and support of emerging artists working in diverse genres. It was created in early 2004 and since then the people of AFP have worked towards the arts education programs in the NYC public schools. So far they've raised money for Art Start and NYC Department of Education's music program. As the one of the event organizers stressed during the Clash of the Artists this organization relies totally on volunteers who are willing to spend their time and efforts for the promotion of artistic pursuits amongst the young.

AFP's Clash of the Artists is the organization's first-ever multi-genre competition. Three artists from the fields of visual arts, film, fashion, music, and DJing were selected after a 6-week online voting period. Those finalists presented their works and performances in a privately owned loft in Midtown Manhattan on Saturday, March 3rd. The event attracted a mixed crowd of fashionistas, cinephiles, and art supporters in general who filled the main room of the loft. There we could see the works of Visual Artists Natalie Kates, Krystyna Printup, and Agniezska & Wiktor decide on our favorite to vote the winner.

At about 8pm the short film showcase started, drawing more people in the main room. Daniel Maldonado's Stickers stood out because of its tight pacing and the way it shattered preconceptions regarding children's innocence with its gloom bleak subject of child violence. How far would a 3rd grader go to ensure his good grades? Definitely check this film out.

Live music started on a low key with Japanese chanteuse Roja. Unfortunately, her acoustic songs (most of them in Japanese) failed to capture the attention of the crowd to the effect that one of the organizers of the event had to step up to the mic and request the audience to respect the artist. When synth-drums duo Quitzow came up on stage they fired their glam-meets-bubblegum pop songs and they soon had people dancing. Alternating from synth to guitar, singer Erica Quitzow kicked off the music party with her persisting charm and catchy melodies. Tal Nardi followed with her singing and performance rooted in classic funk and rock motifs. She was backed up by a full band but there was something in the delivery of the material that was decisively lacking compared to the previous performers.

For the most glamorous part of the event, the fashion show, the main room of the loft was transformed into a catwalk around which groups of people eagerly squeezed next to each other. From Michael Walton's colorful designs to Selma Karaca's luxury dresses to Ronnette A. Cox's street-smart post-80s urban wear the show was spectacular.

And what normally follows after a fashion show? A party. Which is what the organizers had in mind when placing the DJ-battle set at the end of event. Everybody seemed to be in the mood for some shaking and dancing and it was up to DJs Rob Paterson, Mark Fields, and Kevin Graves to show their chops and entice the crowds to vote for them.

After a full night of multi-art exposure I left feeling content that organizations like AFP raise money for art education while at the same time promoting new artistic voices.

Liquid City
The Art of Drinking
GalleryBar
by Annie Fischer
April 17th, 2007

The time is always now. That's just one of the not-so-subtle messages plastered on the walls of GalleryBar (120 Orchard Street), courtesy of Peter Tunney, the biotech investor-turned-pop artist who memorably took up residence in Crobar's V.I.P. room for nearly a year back in 2003. His latest solo exhibition, Tunney Munney: Not for Sale, is a collection of sizable text-heavy photo collages—and the second show to date at this space, the Lower East Side's answer to the question of what to do when an opening is over. The inspired solution? Do nothing; stick around as long as you want. This bar serves as the show and the after-party.
Owned by Mercadito's Darin Rubell, cousin of legendary Steve Rubell; Joshua Boyd of Plan B; and Derrek Vernon, GalleryBar unfolds as a bi-level space: the art hangs upstairs next to a huge bar, large leather banquettes and the popular photo booth; a low-ceilinged lounge inhabits the basement. The atmosphere is surprisingly relaxed and unpretentious—throughout the night there were smiling patrons smoking downstairs (us), dancing upstairs (also us, unfortunately), and making out on both floors (please, like you've never). There was one girl who was so relaxed that she passed out near the bottom of the stairs. She obviously chose the third option outlined by the bar's suggested list of behaviors near coat check: "Be profound, be funny or be quiet."

The 32-year-old Rubell, whose family is well known for a remarkable contemporary art collection, says he's only recently become interested in art, which partly explains the bar's concept. In addition to the openings, GalleryBar hosts a weekly event on Wednesdays called the Collective, which is co-sponsored by Art for Progress, and intended as an opportunity to exchange ideas about the Lower East Side's artistic resources against a backdrop of guest DJs and cocktail specials—"THE event for art lovers to mix and mingle," according to Art for Progress' website. More drinking, more dancing, and—if "mingle," means what it should— more making out. The time is always now.

Artcile from www.villagevoice.com, April 2007

GalleryBar
photo: Willie Davis/Veras

Hamptons.com
out & about

Performance Art and Design – How Spectacular!
Nicole B. Brewer

Capping the evening of design excess was the rocking affair "Mesmerize: A Midsummer's Night with Art For Progress" at the home of Vincent Falasco, founder of the interior design firm Falasco & Smith. Art For Progress (AFP) is a nonprofit art organization based in New York City.

AFP founder Frank Jackson is committed to the cultivation and support of visual and performing artists and not only raising the awareness of arts education in public schools but also bringing their artists to the schools. For this fundraising bash Jackson and his crew, transformed four rooms of the elegant mansion into galleries showing their artists work with impromptu performance art pieces popping all over.

The party started in the front lawn and wrapped around the house, where fashion installations of silk scarves and art displays beckoned guests to venture up the hill to the patio in the back. Local wine and even a wine sorbet were big hits as "The Cultures of Rhythms" filled the night with jazz, inspiring even a bit of improv performance art from dancer Patrice Miller.

Thanks to David Catania, of Mae de Ouro, the Brazilian cachaca was flowing copiously loosing up inhibitions so that at least a dozen guests dove fully clothed into the pool. We remained a bit reserved and only dipped our tootsies as we cheered the others.

Until next week...

Artcile from www.hamptons.com, July 2006

gothamist™

Allyson Jacobs, Fashion Designer

Name, occupation, where do you live and where are you from?
My name is Allyson Jacobs. I am a fashion designer in downtown New York. I live in Little Italy and am from Baker, Louisiana.

You are a fashion designer with your own label, is that very difficult in a city like New York which has so many clothing stores?
Having your own label is indeed very difficult. There are a lot of talented designers in New York, and the fashion industry can be very jaded. You really have to believe in what you are doing.

Do you view New York as the fashion capital of the world or do you think that's Paris or Milan? Why?
I don't feel there is a "fashion capital" anymore. Today people are so well-connected and information is disseminated very quickly, so we all have access to the same things. With that being said, I think New York women are the most interesting in fashion, because we not only need to look great, but we also have to make it work in the hustle-and-bustle of life in this city, from the subway to the boardroom.

Where do you get the inspirations for your designs?
I am inspired by life in this great city, as well as my favorite place in the world, New Orleans. Though things are difficult at home in Louisiana, the grace and ease of New Orleans will always be a part of me. I am interested in creating clothes that women can't resist, but also really works for their lifestyles.

Is there a certain item that is a trademark of your clothing designs?
A trademark of my work is that it has to be "polished," meaning that every seam is finished, everything is lined properly, and that the cut allows you to move freely. A new symbol will be featured in the upcoming fall 2006 line, but I will not discuss it yet.

Whenever we see clothes from runway shows, we think "can women really wear that?" Do you think your clothes are practical for most New Yorkers?
I think so. I know most of my own pieces are very wearable. You must remember that the shows are meant not only to sell the practical things, but to also have a little fun. What's life without fantasy?

What place or thing would you declare a landmark?
I would declare Beckenstein's a landmark. They have the best fabric in the world, Scabal, and the men there are great.

Where is your favorite place to shop?
My favorite place to shop is the Flower District at 7:00 am. It's like another world.

What advice, if any, would you give to Mayor Bloomberg?
I have no advice for the mayor...not a believer in armchair quarterbacks.

When you just need to get away from it all, where is your favorite place in NYC to be alone?
My favorite place to be alone is the Hudson River Park. I love to run along the promenade.

Interview from www.gothamist.com, January 11, 2006

gothamist™

Frank Jackson, Founder and Director, Art For Progress

Name, age, occupation, where do you live and where are you from?
My name is Frank Jackson and I'm 37 years old. I live in Little Italy, NYC and I was born in Scranton, Pennsylvania.

You founded Art For Progress, can you describe what your organization does and why you started it?
AFP is a 501(c) 3, non profit organization that provides support and resources to emerging artists in New York City while raising funds for arts education. AFP also works to advance awareness of the arts in New York City by producing several diverse arts events during the course of the year where we feature AFP artists.

Knowing many gifted artists, and understanding their struggles with the business end of their profession, I saw an opportunity to help them and also create a community where they can help each other. At the same time, I wanted to create a new forum for the arts without all of the barriers and pretentiousness that are inherent in the art world.

With what seems like so many artists in New York, how do you choose which artists to support?
So far, many of the artists that we have worked to support have come through referrals from other artists. We are working with artists who truly believe in what we are doing and want to get involved and help support our goals. In the near future we'll be launching a new artist community web site which will dramatically expand benefits for our artists. We'll also be offering memberships to artists that are interested and ready to move forward.

Art For Progress has a goal of opening a gallery – how is the progress on that?
It 's a long term goal, but we're always keeping our ears to the ground in hopes of finding the right match for us and property owners who are interested in the arts and the goals of our organization.

As your organization also supports arts education in NYC public schools, what do you think the state of arts education is right now?
What arts are the most lacking in the school system? Since the city's public schools are continuously struggling to get the necessary funding to support their general needs, I would have to say that they are more focused on utilizing their resources toward their math and science programs. With that being said, arts education has suffered quite a bit. Fortunately, there are organizations that work very hard to offset the disparity of funding for the schools and although it's never enough it does help.

You're also a DJ, who are your inspirations when it comes to music?
I'm such a music lover that I have so many influences. Anything from Pink Floyd to dance music icons like Danny Tenaglia.

What place or thing would you declare a landmark?
A place that you cannot pass without looking at or remembering a specific event in your life.

When you need to get away from it all, where is your favorite place in NYC to be alone?
I have little spot in Central Park where I can go and feel like I'm many many miles away from the city.

Interview from www.gothamist.com, January 10, 2006

‹THE L MAGAZINE›
PUT IT IN YOUR POCKET
Jan 19-Feb 01, 05
FREE volume III issue 01

Art in the City: Art For Progress

COURTESY ART FOR PROGRESS

New York offers the finer things in life — music, booze, art, film — but you can't always find them in the same place. Art For Progress, an interdisciplinary arts events organization, combines these elements in cool and fun ways. How are they able to throw an event where you can check out photos from Burning Man, drink cocktails, listen to a DJ spin 70s funk, and watch a fashion show at the same time? Frank Jackson, the Director, explains.

The L Magazine: What types of arts are created or performed and how did Art For Progress come into being?

Frank Jackson: We're open to all mediums of art which we may or may not have represented in past events. We have featured live music, fashion shows, photography, film, etc. The organization came into being through a group of young Manhattanites who recognized a need for something new and invigorating in the local art/nightlife scene. We're artists and those who appreciate art in all of its forms. We wanted to offer an alternative to the average bar/club night out in New York while presenting a sophisticated option that New York City has always been known for, but has lost in more recent years. In creating a diverse arts playground for adults, our hope was that this would result in the same diversity in our attendees. It's the essence of what NYC is all about. The only difference is that we do this without the attitude and structure associated with many art-related events.

The L: What's the goal?

FJ: Our goal is to support talented artists through our events by offering them a forum to present their work. Our events provide them with the exposure that their young careers desperately need. Because many struggling artists do not have the financial resources necessary to put on a show, we provide this support. Additionally, we continue to support them through public relations and marketing efforts through Art For Progress. We also maintain a presence in the community by supporting arts-related charities and educational foundations.

The L: How do you think your events differ from other art events?

FJ: Our ability to present little-known emerging artists (rather than established artists) in an unpretentious setting. By taking away the confines of the art 'scene' we're able to introduce new art to different groups of people who may have previously felt alienated by an art crowd. Also by changing the focus of the art mediums presented at each event the type of crowd we get is continuously growing and evolving, which helps gain exposure for all artists involved.

The L: Has it been successful so far?

FJ: Yes. One of our talented fashion designers, Allyson Jacobs (www.allysonjacobs.com), who was featured in our Spring Fashion event at the Museum of Sex, received a call from a rather reputable stylist out in L.A. who wore Allyson's Spring wear during fashion week. Some of Allyson's line will be for sale on Melrose Avenue in the near future. *Ryan Gavaghan*

Checkout www.artforprogress.com

Article from The L Magazine, January 19- Feburary 01, 2005

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New York Cool .com

Featured in New York Cool, May 2005
photograph by Emily Brownell

Featured in New York Cool, July 2005
photograph by Krisztina Fazekas

Featured in New York Cool, October 2004
photograph by Evan Sung

New York Cool .com

Featured in New York Cool, September 2005
photograph by Mary Blanco

Featured in New York Cool, December 2005
Photopraph by Linus Gelber

Featured in New York Cool, December 2005
Photograph by Ramon Estevanell

AFP Events Images

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