

Date: December 2017 Circulation: 120.000



DECEMBER 2017

MOVIES, BOOKS, BENEFITS, & ART

By JOE ALEXANDER with Photographs by PATRICK MCMULLAN



Little Bullets' Alphan Eseli. The critically acclaimed festival closed with the screening of Blue by director Sertan Unver and was followed by a live musical performance by White Cheese that had everyone dancing in the aisles. Festival sponsors included the Turkey-America Business Council and RAMERICA. americanturkishsociety.org

Charlie Chaplin's granddaughter Kiera Chaplin is among the supporters of The Viennese Opera Ball, which kicked off its 2018 benefit at the Austrian Cultural Forum. The charity will celebrate a 100 years of the artist Gustav Klimt's legacy at its white tie debutant ball in February at the new Ziegfeld Ballroom. Guests included the ball's chair, ball President Silvia Frieser, Daniel Serafin Laine Siklos and Dr. Stefan Eder. vienneseoperaball.com

FRENCH HERITAGE SOCIETY

Chef Daniel Boulud auctioned off a five-course dinner with wine pairings at The French Heritage Society's 35th Anniversary Gala. The organization's Chairman Elizabeth F. Stribling announced over \$1 million in grants from the Met's Visitors to Versailles exhibition in 2018 to restoration projects in Paris. The 1920's themed party dubbed "On the Rivera" was co-chaired by CeCe Black, Jean Shafiroff, Ann Van Ness, Maureen M. Nash, Jay R. Paul, Xavier Flouret and Silvina Leone. frenchheritagesociety.org

JULIETTE BINOCHE & MARYAM

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Michael Douglas, John Travolta, and Juliette Binoche are all supporters of artist Maryam Alakbarli who triumphs on canvas despite having Down Syndrome. Life of Pi star Gérard Depardieu bought an abstract work from the painter for \$25K from gallerist Stéphane de Boysson who brought Maryam's work from Paris to show at Aqua Art Miami. maryam-alakbarli.com



LOVE IS THE ANSWER



Designer Helen Yarmal

and Vanessa Williams



Walters that has hung in the eatery since 1998. Cenedella told Ivana, "I deliberately didn't include your ex-husband in the painting." Ivana laughed and said, "I don't blame you, I'm still here." The happy duo high-fived each other and sat down at the lunch that also included Sharon Bush and Kick Kennedy. rcenedellagallery.com

Amy Winehouse's parents, Janis and Mitch Winehouse have had their daughter memorialized by pop artist Deborah Azzopardi. The portrait titled Love is the Answer, had its USA unveiling at the opening of Nick Korniloff's Art Miami at the Cynthia Corbett Gallery. The limited-edition silk-screen print selling for \$17k each, has been signed by Amy's parents and the artist with a portion of sales going to the Winehouse Foundation, which works to prevent drug and alcohol misuse by young people. Winehouse, who fought her demons and addictions from her teens, died of an alcohol overdose at 27 in 2011. thecynthiacorbettgallery.com

HUGH HEFNER & HELEN YARMAK

Beyoncé, Kate Moss, J. Lo, and Lady Gaga are just a few of the VIPs that have been swathed in furs and jewels from designer Helen Yarmak. The couturier whose coats can cost up to \$450K gave a party to celebrate the life of Hugh Hefner in Playboy's iconic penthouse in The Crown building on 5th Avenue that she uses as her showroom. Guests included stem cell researcher Dr. Christopher Calapai and art advisor Kenny Ackerman. helenyarmak.com •



Date: December 11, 2017 **Unique Visitors:** 20,000



Artist to See at Art Miami

If you travel over to the AQUA Art Miami fair, you'll find another new artist to be on the look out for. Maryam Alakbarli, a French painter with Down's syndrome, will be exhibiting her work at the BP Project Gallery booth from the 6th to the 10th. Maryam has quickly become a favorite among those who collect art such as John Travolta, Juliette Binoche and Gerard Depardieu. As a person with Down's Syndrome, she "perceives the outer world in an unusual way." Maryam invites the viewers to see the world through her eyes using her artwork.



Heading over to **CONTEXT Art Miami** will give you more great pieces to look through and interact with. **Mileece**, a sound artist that works with the modern evolution of plant biofeedback creates immersive installations, sonic design and composition, as well as interactive sculptures. Her piece being presented is called *TreeHugger* and represents the complex, yet fluid sounds of nature that we can hear and that are hidden to us. The nature soundscape is layers of binaural recording including sounds from insects, amphibians, rain and wind from places all over the world.

These artists are just three of many amazing artists being presented during art week. Tickets for all three fairs are still available so head to their website for those and more information. http://www.artmiami.com/home