

Galerie

The Norton Museum of Art Gala Was a Star-Studded Tribute to Rembrandt

In West Palm Beach, the evening reimagined Rembrandt's world in light and life by transforming the museum's grounds into a luminous tableau of art and philanthropy

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Oliver Barker leads the auction.
PHOTO: CAPEHART PHOTOGRAPHY

On February 7, West Palm Beach glowed beneath the allure of the **Norton Museum of Art Gala**, one of the crowning events of the **Palm Beach** social calendar. The night drew notable philanthropists, art collectors, dealers, and cultural patrons for a celebration that blended artistry, community, and glamour in equal measure.

This year's theme—Art and Life in **Rembrandt's** Time: Masterpieces from the Leiden Collection, the title of Norton's current blockbuster exhibition and one of the world's foremost private collections of 17th-century Dutch art—set the evening's tone. Though guests never entered the museum itself, the gala's setting echoed the exhibition's emotion and intimacy, channeling Rembrandt's mastery of chiaroscuro, the dance of light and shadow that defined his art.



Ghislain d'Humieres, Kelly Williams, Josephine Kalisman, Audrey Gruss, and Sue Hostetler.
PHOTO: CARRIE BRADBURN/CAPEHART

Behind the museum, an epic custom-built tent transformed the rear with drinks, dinner, and dessert evolving through distinct yet harmoniously designed areas. Cocktails glowed beneath sculptural golden lighting, giving way to a candlelit dinner where guests were served Rembrandt's Rosti—a delicate potato pancake crowned with crème fraîche and caviar—followed by Salmon Wellington. Long tables dressed with candelabras, flowers, seashells, and fruits created still-life compositions that paid sumptuous homage to the Dutch master's world. After dinner, guests flowed into the Dessert Room, where tiers of confections, passed petits fours, and dancing carried the night forward. Every detail—light, color, scent—was orchestrated to evoke Rembrandt's textures and tones.



Guests enjoyed a candlelit dinner.
PHOTO: KIM ZUCCARO/CAPEHART



Maynard Monrow, Beth Rudin DeWoody, and Mera and Don Rubell.
PHOTO: CARRIE BRADBURN/CAPEHART

Throughout the evening, the Sotheby’s auctioneer kept the energy high, as works by **Loie Hollowell**, **Jeffrey Gibson**, **Julie Curtiss**, Jessie Henson, and **Marilyn Minter** sparked generous bidding. Honorees Ronnie Heyman, distinguished philanthropist, and artist Loie Hollowell, celebrated for her luminous abstractions, embodied the Norton’s mission to bridge heritage and innovation—linking centuries of artistry in a single radiant evening. Heyman’s legacy extends beyond the gala: the Samuel J. and Ronnie F. Heyman Plaza, home to **Claes Oldenburg** and Coosje van Bruggen’s monumental *Typewriter Eraser, Scale X* (1999), stands as a lasting testament to her generosity and vision.



Tommy and Dee Hilfiger.
PHOTO: CARRIE BRADBURN/CAPEHART



Aerin Lauder and Julia Koch.
PHOTO: CARRIE BRADBURN/CAPEHART



Austin Eddy, Shara Hughes, and Anna Fisher.
PHOTO: KIM ZUCCARO/CAPEHART

Beyond its spectacle, the gala raised vital funds for the Norton’s curatorial, educational, and community engagement programs, reinforcing its role as a cultural cornerstone of South Florida. By uniting global collectors with local benefactors, the Norton reaffirmed that art’s most luminous moments live not only on its walls but in the lives it continues to influence. As the evening drew to a close, the museum’s Norman Foster–designed addition glowed softly against the tropical sky while Oldenburg’s bold sculpture gleamed in its reflecting pool.



Ashley Holzer and Jane Holzer.
PHOTO: LAURA MASSA/CAPEHART



Steven and Lisa Tananbaum.
PHOTO: CARRIE BRADBURN/CAPEHART



Mitchell and Hilarie Morgan.
PHOTO: KIM ZUCCARO/CAPEHART



Lindsay Taylor and Jose Alvarez.
PHOTO: CARRIE BRADBURN/CAPEHART



Loie Hollowell.
PHOTO: LAURA MASSA/CAPEHART



Sophocles and Silvia Zoullas.
PHOTO: CARRIE BRADBURN/CAPEHART



Katherine Bryan and George Hamilton.
PHOTO: LAURA MASSA/CAPEHART



The Norton Museum of Art Gala.
PHOTO: KIM ZUCCARO/CAPEHART



Anastasia Samoylova and Bill Bone.
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Norton Museum of Art.
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