

For immediate use: October 6, 2013

Morgan Kroll, Manager, Public Relations, mkroll@hammer.ucla.edu, 310-443-7016

Event photography available via **Getty/WireImage** and **Patrick McMullan**

**HAMMER MUSEUM HONORED ROBERT GOBER & TONY KUSHNER AT THE GALA IN THE GARDEN WITH GENEROUS SUPPORT FROM BOTTEGA VENETA  
With tributes by Viola Davis & Charles Ray and a performance by k.d. lang**

Los Angeles, CA—Artists, philanthropists, gallerists, collectors, and entertainment world notables gathered at the Hammer Museum's 11th annual Gala in the Garden on Saturday, October 5, 2013. The sold-out Gala, which raised \$2 million for the Hammer's renowned exhibitions and free public programs, was held in the Museum's elegant outdoor courtyard and honored artist **Robert Gober** and playwright **Tony Kushner**. The event included tribute speeches by artist **Charles Ray** for Gober and actor **Viola Davis** for Kushner. Singer/songwriter **k.d. lang** entertained guests with a three-song performance after dinner. Actors **Rita Wilson** and **Tom Hanks** served as co-chairs with Bottega Veneta Creative Director **Tomas Maier**. Chef **Suzanne Goin** of Lucques once again created the menu for the seated dinner. Nearly 600 guests attended this year's Gala in the Garden.

Hammer Museum Director **Ann Philbin**, wearing a Bottega Veneta dress, greeted such luminaries as **Jodie Foster**, **Viveca** and **Will Ferrell**, **Susan** and **Leonard Nimoy**, **Diane Kruger** and **Joshua Jackson**, **Ed** and **Danna Ruscha**, **Matt Groening**, **Dana Delany**, **Maria Bello**, **China Chow**, **Annabeth Gish**, **Danai Gurira**, **Thomas Jane**, **Mary McCormack**, **Laura Mulleavy (Rodarte)**, **Scott Sternberg (Band of Outsiders)**, **Thomas Demand**, **Kiki Smith**, and **Jeanne and Anthony Pritzker**.

The party began as guests mingled over cocktails and hors d'oeuvres while also exploring the Hammer's exhibitions including *James Welling: Monograph*; *Forrest Bess: Seeing Things Invisible*; and *Mark Leckey: On Pleasure Bent*.

Once seated for dinner, guests were welcomed with great hilarity by Rita Wilson and Will Ferrell posing as Tom Hanks, who was unable to attend at the last minute. Ann Philbin then began the evening's presentations by acknowledging and thanking Bottega Veneta for their generous support of this year's Gala and then followed with a special announcement: **the Hammer will eliminate its admission fee and become entirely FREE to the public in early 2014**. Philbin acknowledged that FREE admission for the first four years is made possible by two generous gifts from longtime Hammer Museum benefactors **Erika J. Glazer** and **Brenda R. Potter**.

"We believe that museums can and should have a significant impact on civic life," Philbin explained. "We want to foster a generosity of spirit which emphasizes the essential importance of dialogue, culture, creativity in everyone's lives—regardless of one's ability to pay. Together with our recent gifts from the Anthony and Jeanne Pritzker Foundation supporting family programming, and the UCLA Dream Fund supporting public programs, we can serve new and more communities in a robust way."

**Notable guests included:**

**Fashion, Entertainment & Design:** Maria and Bill Bell, Maria Bello, Lawrence Bender, Marcy Carsey, China Chow, Susie Crippen, Viola Davis (tribute speaker), Dana Delany, Waldo Fernandez, Viveca and Will Ferrell, Jodie Foster, Linda and Bob Gersh, Annabeth Gish, Liz Goldwyn, Matt Groening, Danai Gurira, Alan Hergott, Sandy Hill, David Hoberman, Thomas Jane, Diane Kruger and Joshua Jackson, Trey Laird, k.d. lang (musical guest), Lisa Love, Tomas Maier (co-chair), Jena Malone, Nathalie Marciano, Kim and Michael McCarty, Mary McCormack, Laura Mulleavy (Rodarte), Susan and Leonard Nimoy, Katherine Ross, Lin Shaye, Brian Siberell, Scott Sternberg (Band of Outsiders), and Rita Wilson (co-chair).

**Artists, architects, & writers:** Doug Aitken, Benjamin Ball, Walead Beshty and Erica Redling, Carol Bove, Eileen & Michael Cohen, Liz Craft and Pentti Monkkonen, Thomas Demand, Charles Gaines, Robert Gober (honoree), Jennifer Guidi and Mark Grotjahn, Fritz Haeg, Alexandra Hedison, Elliott Hundley and Alphaeus Taylor, Alex Israel, Glenn Kaino and Corey Lynn Calter, Mary Kelly and Ray Barrie, Tony Kushner (honoree), Monica Majoli, Paul and Karen McCarthy, Amy Murphy and Michael Maltzan, Gaston Nogues, Catherine Opie and Julie Burleigh, Lari Pittman and Roy Dowell, Ron Radziner, Charles Ray (tribute speaker), Heather Rasmussen and Julian Hoeber, Ed and Danna Ruscha, Eddie Ruscha and Francesca Gabbiani, Paul Sietsema, Ramona Trent and Anthony Pearson, Kiki Smith, Kaari Upson, Mary Weatherford, James Welling and Jane Weinstock, and Jonas Wood and Shio Kusaka.

**Civic and cultural leaders, collectors, philanthropists, and gallerists:** Roland Augustine, UCLA Chancellor Gene Block, Irving Blum, Tim Blum and Jeff Poe, David Bohnett, Deborah Borda, James Cuno, Beth Rudin DeWoody and Firooz Zahedi, Honor Fraser and Stavros Merjos, Marguerite Hoffman, Maria Hummer and Bob Tuttle, Maggie Kayne, Matthew Marks and Jack Bankowsky, Susan and Larry Marx, Irena and Mike Medavoy, Peter Morton, Lisa Overduin, Jeanne and Tony Pritzker, Emily and Mitchell Rales, Shaun Regen, Chara Schreyer, Ruth and Bill True, and Gordon VeneKlasen.

**Gala in the Garden Menu**

Prepared by Chef Suzanne Goin, Lucques

**First course:** Peaches and burrata with figs, arugula, roasted grapes & saba vinaigrette

**Entrée:** Braised chicken with farro, roasted eggplant & harissa

**Dessert:** Bittersweet chocolate cake with amarena cherries, red currants, blackberries & minted cream

**Wine:** 2010 Topanga Celadon Grenache Blanc, Beeswax Vineyard, Arroyo Seco; 2010 Donelan Syrah Cuveé Christine, North Coast

**Décor**

Known for its understated elegance, this year's Gala in the Garden featured custom ebony wood wide-plank tables with charcoal linen napkins, arrangements of deep purple dahlias, and hundreds of hand-poured white candles in glass hurricanes. Swooping strands of amber bulbs were strung from the roof and balcony levels of the courtyard, creating a canopy of lights. Once again, the Gala was orchestrated by the Hammer's Deputy Director of Advancement, Jennifer Wells Green and Associate Director of Donor Relations, David Morehouse with **Mitie Tucker**

**Event Production.** Floral arrangements by **Dandelion Ranch.**

Event photography available via **Getty/WireImage** and **Patrick McMullan.**

## **ABOUT THE HAMMER MUSEUM**

The Hammer Museum, a public arts unit of the University of California, Los Angeles, is dedicated to exploring the diversity of artistic expression through the ages. Its collections, exhibitions, and programs span the classic to the cutting-edge in art, architecture, and design, recognizing that artists play a crucial role in all aspects of culture and society.

The museum houses the Armand Hammer Collection of Old Master, Impressionist, and Post-Impressionist paintings and the Armand Hammer Daumier and Contemporaries Collection. The museum also houses the Grunwald Center for the Graphic Arts, comprising more than 45,000 prints, drawings, photographs, and artists' books from the Renaissance to the present; and oversees the management of the Franklin D. Murphy Sculpture Garden on the UCLA campus. The Hammer's newest collection, the Hammer Contemporary Collection, is highlighted by works by artists such as Lari Pittman, Kara Walker, Ed Ruscha, Barbara Kruger, Mark Bradford, Richard Hawkins, Lynn Foulkes, among many others.

The Hammer presents major single-artist and thematic exhibitions of historical and contemporary art. It also presents approximately ten Hammer Projects exhibitions each year, providing international and local artists with a laboratory-like environment to create new work or to present existing work in a new context.

As a cultural center, the Hammer offers a diverse range of free public programs throughout the year, including lectures, readings, symposia, film screenings, and music performances. The Hammer's Billy Wilder Theater houses these widely acclaimed public programs and is the new home of the UCLA Film & Television Archive's renowned cinematheque.

## **HAMMER MUSEUM INFORMATION**

For current program and exhibition information call **310-443-7000** or visit **[www.hammer.ucla.edu](http://www.hammer.ucla.edu)**.

**Hours:** Tuesday–Friday 11am–8pm; Saturday & Sunday 11am–5pm; closed Mondays, July 4, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day.

**Admission:** **FREE FOR ALL VISITORS BEGINNING FEBRUARY 9, 2014.** Currently: \$10 for adults; \$5 for seniors (65+) and UCLA Alumni Association members; free for Museum members, students with identification, UCLA faculty/staff, military personnel, veterans, and visitors 17 and under. The Museum is free on Thursdays for all visitors. Public programs are always free.

**Location/Parking:** The Hammer is located at 10899 Wilshire Boulevard, at Westwood Boulevard. Parking is available under the Museum. Rate is \$3 for three hours with Museum validation. Bicycles park free.