

A SHAKESPEREAN TRIUMPH

Ballet Austin's Fête And fête*ish Create Storybook Social Season Launch

By Rob Giardinella | Photography by Merrick Ales and Brian Fitzsimmons





Alejandro and Ana Ruelas

THE SCENE:

The city's new JW Marriott Hotel was the setting for an evening that went to Shakespearian proportions as the Ballet Austin Fête and fête*ish events kicked off the fall social scene in classic storybook fashion. From escalating the stairs, greeted by a server dressed in Elizabethan-era costume of champagne flutes attached to her dress, to the red Ferrari parked adjacent to the ballroom, guests knew they were in for a special evening.

During the program, guests dined on a delicious four-course meal that had special gothic, Shakespearian touches, while the program and live auction featured speakers as Mayor Steve Adler and Police Chief Art Acevedo. After the conclusion of the live auction where a Mother Ginger appearance was an item, the fun continued well into the evening at the fête*ish after party where its To Be Seen or Not Be Seen theme perfectly captured the evening's spirit.

Sarah and John Krause



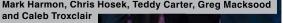














The "artistic" black-tie crowd allowed for high fashion to be presented in an innovative way, many featuring the best-known Shakespeare colors of red, white and black, perfectly mirrored the many facets and depths of the playwrights work. This could be seen in the many accessories worn by the fashionable crowd ranging from skull and cross bone scarves and cufflinks to elaborate jewels and necklaces, highlighting the energy guests give their attire for the event.







THE CAUSE:

The majestic-al evening of Ballet Austin Fête chaired by Ana and Alejandro Ruelas and fête*ish chaired by Austin Social Planner and The Society Dairies contributors Laura Villagran Johnson and Kevin Smothers, raised over \$400,000 for Ballet Austin Programs, providing exceptional artistic programming, arts education and access to the Central Texas community.









