

**October 3, 2005**

Melissa Goldberg, Communications Associate  
310-443-7056, melgold@arts.ucla.edu

**GALA IN THE GARDEN ATTRACTS PHILANTHROPISTS, ARTISTS, AND  
HOLLYWOOD INSIDERS IN A FESTIVE CELEBRATION RAISING \$600,000  
FOR THE HAMMER MUSEUM IN WESTWOOD**

*October 1 Gala in the Hammer Museum's courtyard honored Ed Ruscha*

Los Angeles, CA—Eminent visual artists, important figures in entertainment, philanthropists, art dealers, and collectors mingled at the Hammer Museum's third annual Gala in the Garden on October 1. Raising more than \$600,000 for the Museum's renowned exhibitions and public programs, the Gala was held in the Museum's beautiful outdoor courtyard in honor of legendary L.A. artist **Ed Ruscha** and was co-chaired by **Edythe and Eli Broad, Sofia Coppola, and Gigi and Brian Grazer.**

Director of the Hammer Museum **Ann Philbin** welcomed such luminaries as Lauren Hutton, Dennis Hopper, Steve Martin, Michael York, Don Rickles, John Baldessari, Barbara Kruger, Frank O. Gehry, Michael Crichton, Lynda and Stewart Resnick, Maria and Bill Bell, and Edythe and Eli Broad in the lobby of the Museum against the backdrop of Phoebe Washburn's eye-catching Hammer Project installation.

Artist and photographer **Catherine Opie** contributed generously to the event by taking large-format Polaroid portraits as a special benefit for the top benefactors of the evening, including Gigi and Brian Grazer, Gail and Stanley Hollander, Rosette Delug, and Ronnie and Vidal Sassoon.

Chairman of the Hammer Museum's Board of Directors **John V. Tunney** and UCLA **Chancellor Albert Carnesale** welcomed guests before the colorful heirloom tomato salad and Hawaiian snapper were expertly served by chef Suzanne Goin of **LUCQUES** restaurant. After dinner, Ann Philbin introduced the influential art critic **Dave Hickey** who eloquently lauded Ruscha's creativity and achievements. Ruscha accepted this wonderful honor and in turn praised the success of the Hammer Museum and its rising importance in the Los Angeles contemporary art community. The finale of the evening was a surprise musical performance by Mason Williams, Ruscha's life long friend, who played "Classical Gas," from the album of the same name, and the ditty "Eddie, I'm Ready" sung by Eynne Smith.

Hanging capize shell lanterns and projected lights created an elegant courtyard setting by casting a soft amber glow in surrounding bamboo trees. Cut orchids and clusters of calla lilies accented by delicate candles completed the fashionable look, designed by Robb Smith of **Laurels.**

**Notable guests included:**

**Collectors, philanthropists, and gallerists** Dallas Price-Van Breda, Susan and Leonard Nimoy, Rosette Delug, Dean Valentine, Andrea and John Van de Kamp, Lee and Larry Ramer, Michael Rubel, Linda and Jerry Janger, Larry Gagosian, Shaun Caley Regen, Tim Blum, Jeff Poe, Louis Stern, Michael Kohn, Marc Selwyn, Margo Leavin, Kim and Michael McCarty, Honor Fraser and Stavros Merjos, and Ronnie and Vidal Sassoon.

**Hollywood insiders** Steve Martin, Bob Shaye, Linda and Bob Gersh, Lauren Hutton, Stephanie Seymour, Victoria Duffy and Dennis Hopper, Brian Lourde, Dana Delany, Barbara and Don Rickles, Julie and Tobey Emmerich, Maria and Bill Bell, Eunice and Hal David, Peri Gilpin

**Artists, architects, and writers** Frank O. Gehry, Michael Crichton, A.M. Homes, Barbara Kruger, Joe Goode, Lari Pittman, Michael Maltzan, Doug Aitken, John Baldessari, Catherine Opie, James Welling, Mark Bradford, Frances Stark, Pae White, Edgar Arceneaux, Mark Grotjahn, Liz Larner, Kenny Scharf, Eddie Ruscha, Francesca Gabbiani;

**Gallerists**

Event Photography by Wireimage

<http://www.wireimage.com/GalleryListing.asp?navtyp=gl&glid=133659&nbc1=1>