

Magic Moments

Thursday March 12, 2009 1:03 pm



While most of the city was at the Museum of the City of New York, a few opted for something a bit further afield: the Asia Society, for the first ever benefit to kick off Asian Week. Actor **B.D. Wong** chaired the evening which included an auction and a “Bangkok Nights” supper club with dancing for younger members, like **Arden Wohl**. Designer **Vivienne Tam** told me about the peony-laptop cover she designed for the auction (after all, the brilliant blooms were a leitmotif of her latest collection) “It’s so chic! What girl doesn’t love peonies!?” she said.

Decidedly downtown later that evening was the after-party for *The Great Buck Howard* at the Soho Grand. A Sundance darling, the film, which stars **Tom Hanks**, **John Malkovich**, and **Emily Blunt**, tells the story of the has-been magician Buck Howard (Malkovich), who stages a comeback with the help of his assistant (Tom’s Hanks’s son, **Colin**). Others on hand were the inimitable Jane Fonda (the young Hanks’s co-star in the much-buzzed-about Broadway show, *33 Variations*), **Rose McGowan**, and **Parker Posey**. A highly entertaining mentalist named **Josh Beckerman** performed his most impressive card tricks for **Daniel Benedict**, **Andrew Saffir** and **Jackie Astie**. Magic touches, particularly now, are much appreciated.

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PHOTO GALLERY

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