

on the SCENE

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SOCIETY & CULTURE

IN BLOOM

NYBG wowed guests with its annual Orchid Dinner.

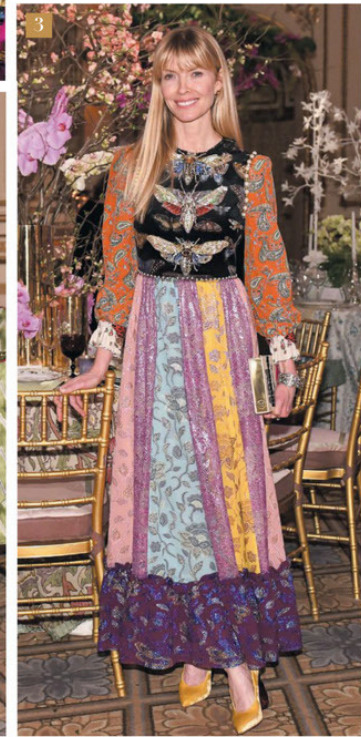
1. Nell Diamond 2. Large-scale floral arrangements took over The Plaza. 3. Chandra Johnson 4. Brittany Bromley 5. Daniela Sarbu 6. CeCe Barfield Thompson 7. Gala chairs Sharon Jacob, Susan Matelich and Vera Aryeh



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THE PARTY The scent of fresh orchids permeated The Plaza's Grand Ballroom for the much-anticipated New York Botanical Garden's Orchid Dinner. The benefit raised more than \$550,000 to support NYBG's collection of orchids and preservation of endangered species. **THE GUESTS** Some 300 partygoers sipped specialty cocktails garnished with flowers and perused a selection of for-sale orchids, all of which found homes. Design experts such as **Mish Tworowski**, **Chandra Johnson** and **Barrie Benson** dined on steak and a s'mores-inspired dessert before taking to the dance floor, where the Sultans of Swing kept the mood jazzy. **THE HIGHLIGHTS** The fragrant soiree is perhaps best-known for the towering centerpieces, each created by a different designer. This year's horticultural masterpieces did not disappoint, as guests milled around the room to fawn over the breathtaking blooms.

THE ORCHID DINNER 2018 PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN. © BFA.COM/ZACH HEILY