

## RDA GALA

## 100 100 40 30

## A Year of Anniversaries

ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14, RICE DESIGN ALLIANCE held a superlative gala that will be remembered for years to come.

Nine hundred people gathered in the Centennial Tent on Rice University's Founders Court to celebrate 100 years of Rice University, 100 years of the Rice School of Architecture, 40 years of Rice Design Alliance, and 30 years of *Cite* magazine.

Guests bid furiously at the silent auction, co-chaired by Natalye Appel and Sarah Balinskas, which featured amazing experiences, including conversations with some of Rice University's brightest minds, stays in vacation homes of some of Houston's leading architects, and unique entertainment opportunities showcasing the best Houston has to offer. Many bidders forwent the competition and went straight for the BUY NOW price. Among them was a one-of-a-kind necklace comprising 100 various owl charms designed by Joyce Lander and a dinner for eight at Damian's with Rice Owls Coach Wayne Graham and former Rice Owl pitcher and St. Louis Cardinal Lance Berkman. A dinner for ten with Mayor Annise Parker was won by several individual donors willing to donate \$250 each for the opportunity.

Jackson and Company provided a delicious meal of butternut squash soup and filet mignon with vegetable accompaniments. RDA President Lonnie Hoogeboom introduced honoree and Rice sociologist Stephen Klineberg, who took the stage to a standing ovation after guests viewed a short video about his 30-year-plus Kinder Houston Area Survey. After the program, guests proceeded to the Academic Quad where they saw *The Spectacle*, an amazing creation by the German artists Urbanscreen, especially commissioned by Rice for its Centennial.

Gala chairs Jory Alexander and Jay Baker thanked Fundraising Chairs Sandy Lynch and Doug Combes, whose committee raised nearly \$500,000; architect and environment chair Jim Evans, who was responsible for creating the stunning ambience; and Graphics Chair Craig Minor who pulled everything together with a colorful design both in print and video formats.



Stephen and Peggy Klineberg



Linda and Dick Sylvan



Jay Baker and Jory Alexander



Betsy Strauch and Lonnie Hoogeboom



Natalye Appel and Sarah Balinskas



Albert Pope, Kathrin Brunner, Sarah Whiting, and Ron Witte



James Evans

Seen in the crowd were Honorary Co-Chair and Rice School of Architecture Dean Sarah Whiting with husband Ron Witte, Larry and Charlotte Whaley, Edwin Friedrichs and Darlene Clark, Laura and George Pontikes, and Dick and Linda Sylvan. The Honorary Committee was also co-chaired by RSA Professor Andy Todd, and it consisted of for-

mer presidents of the Rice Design Alliance, including Gwendolyn Goffe, Jim Furr, Larry Lander, Leslie Davidson, David Harvey, Karl Kilian, Bill Neuhaus, Raymond Brochstein, Chuck Gremillion, Barbara Amelio, Kimberly Hickson, Frank Douglas, Nonya Grenader, and RDA's first president Peck Drennan, among others.