

NSU ART MUSEUM

FORT LAUDERDALE

NSU ART MUSEUM FORT LAUDERDALE'S BELLISSIMA GALA
Presented by BVLGARI
Evening celebrated 30th anniversary of museum's building and U.S. premiere of
Bellissima: Italy and High Fashion 1945 - 1968



L to R: Maria Luisa Frisa, Jean-Christophe Babin, Lucia Boscai, Bonnie Clearwater, Stefano Tonchi, Gloria Marina Bellelli.
Photo by World Red Eye.

Fort Lauderdale, FL, February 8, 2016 - **NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale** held its **Bellissima Gala** on Friday, February 5. The glamorous black-tie evening presented by **Bulgari**, celebrated the **30th anniversary of NSU Art Museum's modernist building** designed by Edward Larrabee Barnes and the U.S. premiere of the exhibition ***Bellissima: Italy and High Fashion 1945-1968***. The event brought together prominent figures from fashion, art, business and philanthropy and raised money for the museum's education and exhibition programs.

Guests enjoyed Italian-inspired cocktails, dinner and dancing, and an exclusive preview of the exhibition, which features extraordinary designer garments, accessories, jewels, artworks and films from the remarkable period of creativity in Italy following World War II and the vibrant spirit in art, fashion and entrepreneurship that is the foundation of Italy today. The decades represented in the exhibition underscore **NSU Art Museum's** special focus on art of this period. **Bulgari** has a longstanding affiliation with the worlds of fashion as well as art and is proud to present the ***Bellissima: Italy and High Fashion 1945-1968*** exhibition.

Modern Italian elegance was reflected in the gala's black and white décor that was inspired by Italian design of the 1960s. The evening's specially curated dinner menu was created by Italian culinary star, **Roberto Di Pinto**, executive chef at the **Bulgari Hotel in Milan** and combined creativity, innovation and the grand tradition of Italian excellence. Guests enjoyed Italian wines by **Ferrari** and **Planeta**.

Bonnie Clearwater, NSU Art Museum Director and Chief Curator welcomed the evening's distinguished guests and sponsors and introduced Gala Chair **Stefano Tonchi**, editor-in-chief of *W Magazine*, who is also a co-curator of the exhibition. She warmly congratulated the evening's honorees, Fort Lauderdale-based collectors **Dr. Stanley and Pearl Goodman** and **Francie Bishop Good and David Horvitz**, NSU Art Museum Chairman, for their steadfast devotion and support of the museum.

Gala Co-Chairs included: **Bonnie Barnett and Robert Kagan**; **Daren Koenig Cronin and Ryan Cronin**; **Tara and Miles Forman**; **Francie Bishop Good and David Horvitz**; **Gucci**; **Lise Hirsch**; **Rita Holloway**; **Kering**; **Barbara and Michael Landry**; **Laura and Charles Palmer**; **Susan and David Samrick**, and **Lorraine Thomas**.

Among the prominent guests in attendance were: **Jean-Christophe Babin**, Global CEO Bulgari; **Daniel Paltridge**, President Bulgari North America; **Lucia Boscaini**, Brand and Heritage Curator, Bulgari; **Gloria Marina Bellelli**, Consul General of Italy in Miami; international collectors **Jane Holzer**, **Beth Rudin DeWoody** and journalist **Firooz Zahedi**; and **Marvin Ross Friedman** and **Adrienne Bon Haes**; **Monica Kalpakian**; **Sandra Muss**; **Laurent Claquin**, CEO Kering Group Americas; *Bellissima* co-curator **Maria Luisa Frisa** and adjunct curator **Gabriele Monti** of University of Venice; **Anna Mattiolo** and **Alessandro Bianchi** of MAXXI: National Museum of the XXI Century Arts in Rome; **Maurizio Forte**, Trade Commissioner and Executive Director, Italian Trade Commission; **George L. Hanbury, II, Ph.D.**, President Nova Southeastern University (NSU); **Patrice Humbel** of Vontobel Swiss Wealth Advisors AG; **Wayne Gilmore** of PNC Bank; and **Joe and Wini Amaturio**; and **Albert and Beatriz Miniaci**.

In honor of the celebration, Bulgari invited prominent guests to wear jewels from their collection: **Gloria Marina Bellelli** wore a Serpenti necklace by Bulgari. **Tracey Mourning** wore a Diva pendant and earrings by Bulgari. **Tara Forman** wore a Serpenti bracelet and earrings by Bulgari. **Daren Koenig Cronin** wore Diva earrings and a Diva pendant by Bulgari.

Gala media sponsor: **W Magazine**

Exhibition media sponsor: **Condé Nast**

Additional gala support provided by: **Pelican Grand Beach Resort**; **Le Basque, the Caterer**; and **Whole Foods Market**.

About the Exhibition

Bellissima: Italy and High Fashion 1945 – 1968

NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale is the sole U.S. venue for the exhibition *Bellissima: Italy and High Fashion 1945-1968*, which will be on view from February 7 through June 5, 2016. The exhibition, a project by the MAXXI: National Museum of the XXI Century Arts in Rome, is curated by Maria Luisa Frisa, Anna Mattiolo and Stefano Tonchi, and explores the remarkable period of creativity in Italy that gave rise to Italian high fashion (*alta moda*) and was notable for extraordinary contributions in Italian art, architecture, cinema, theater and photography. The exhibition is presented by Bulgari. Additional exhibition support provided by Consulate General of Italy in Miami, Italian Trade Commission, Vontobel Swiss Wealth Advisors AG, PNC Bank, Funding Arts Broward, Condé Nast, David and Francie Horvitz Family Foundation, La Rosa mannequins and Pelican Grand Beach Resort and media partner CBS 4. Billboards generously provided by Miles and Tara Forman and Austin and Christine Forman.

About NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale

Founded in 1958, NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale is a premier destination for exhibitions and programs encompassing all facets of civilization's visual history. Located midway between Miami and Palm Beach in downtown Fort Lauderdale's arts and entertainment district (One East Las Olas Boulevard), the Art Museum's distinctive 83,000 square-foot modernist building, which opened in 1986, was designed by renowned architect Edward Larrabee Barnes. The museum contains over 25,000 square feet of exhibition space, the 256-seat Horvitz auditorium, museum store and cafe. Bonnie Clearwater, who became NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale's Director and Chief Curator in 2013, directs the museum's international exhibition program. In 2008, the Art Museum became part of Nova Southeastern University, one of the largest private research universities in the United States. Additional information is available at nsuartmuseum.org or 954-525-5500

About BVLGARI:

Today part of the LVMH Group, Bulgari was founded in Rome in 1884 as a jewelry shop and progressively imposed itself with its magnificent jewelry creations, emblems of Italian excellence. The international success made the Company evolve into its current dimension of a global and diversified player in the luxury market, with a store network in the most exclusive shopping areas worldwide and a portfolio of products and services ranging from jewels and watches to accessories, perfumes and hotels.

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