

Lotus House plans performance art benefit

Monday, October 18, 2010

Have you ever wondered where artists get their inspiration?

This Friday, more than 30 internationally known performance artists will sing, dance, paint, write, video, photograph, weave and sew their creations. And it's all for a good cause.

Dubbed the Heart Happening, the event – which takes place both inside and outside of the 45,000-square-foot Margulies Art Warehouse, at 591 N.W. 27th St., in Miami's Wynwood neighborhood – is a fundraiser. The money raised benefits the Lotus House Women's Shelter in Overtown.

Guests will be treated to exhibits including singing weather balloons and tapestry making.

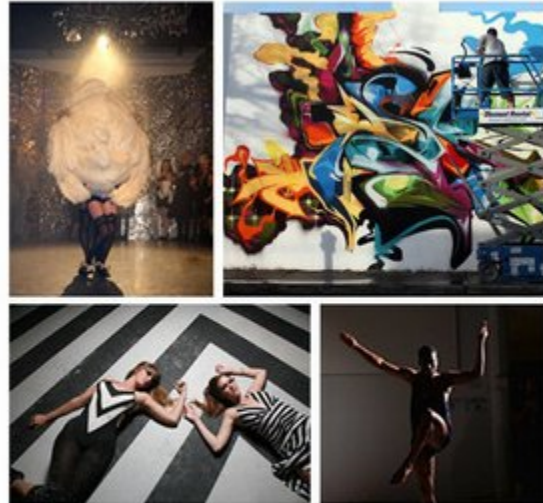
The cost to attend the main event is \$100. It's \$500 for a VIP champagne reception and live auction by Sotheby's.

I am told this year's event is different from years' past, when there were sit-down dinners that didn't include live performances.

"Heart Happening is a critical component of Lotus House's success, raising awareness through the arts and providing much-needed resources for the shelter's holistic programming and operations," said **Constance Collins Margulies**, president of the Sundari Foundation, which operates Lotus House.

Performance artists include **Gema Alava**, Ben Fain, **Roberto Lange**, **David Ellis**, **Steve Johnson**, Trajal Harrell, The Minsky Sisters, Jen Zakrezewski, **Marina Rosenfeld**, **Jason Schmidt** and Lee Walton.

Local artists include Baby B Strings, Natasha Duwin, Miami Poetry Collective, Ruben Millares, Primary Flight, **Antonia Wright**, the TM Sisters, **Agustina Woodgate**, and the Wet Heat Project.



Performance artists clockwise include: Primary Flight, Trajal Harrell, TM Sisters and The Minsky Sisters.

Local restaurants, including Buena Vista French Bakery, Cafeina Wynwood, Latin Café on the Beach, Lido at the Standard, Lost and Found, Mercadito, **Senora Martinez** and Yuga, will participate in chef's tastings.

The Sundari Foundation created Lotus House as a prototype resource center and transitional housing facility serving up to 75 homeless women and children at a time in the heart of Miami's Overtown, one of the nation's poorest inner-city neighborhoods.