

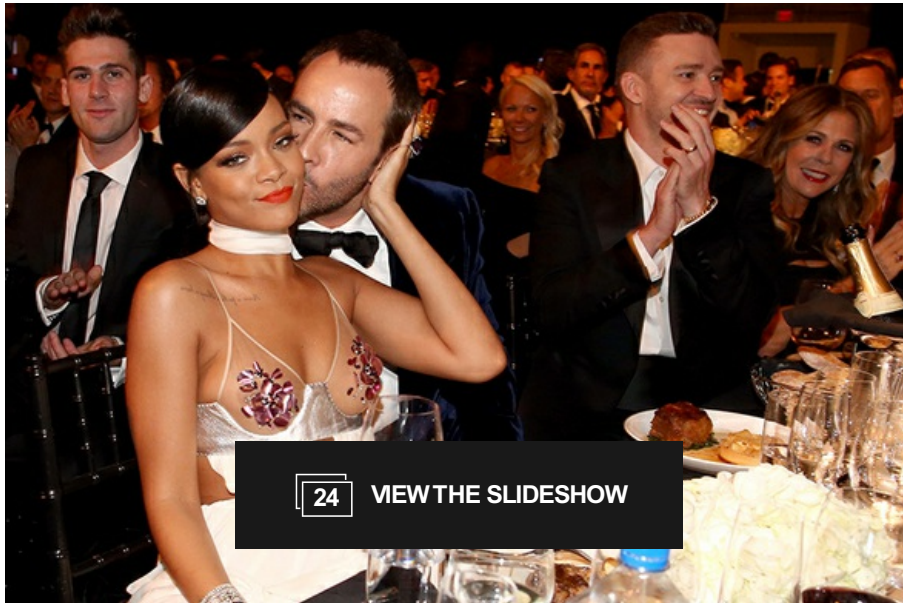
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Tom Ford Honored at amfAR's Inspiration Gala in L.A.



Alexis Brunswick

Parties October 31, 2014 | 03:22AM



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Rihanna and Tom Ford

Photo: Getty Images

It's premiere season, but last night in L.A. it wasn't an Oscar-contending film being celebrated, it was Tom Ford, the guest of honor at amfAR's fifth annual Inspiration Gala, a celebration of men's style. Presented with the evening's Award of Inspiration by Rihanna, Ford was toasted by the likes of amfAR chairman Kenneth Cole and global fundraising chairman Sharon Stone, first for his enduring contributions to menswear, but more important, for his unwavering commitment to fighting the ongoing AIDS crisis. "I'm going to say this when I get onstage, but I'm a little self-conscious about this award," Ford told Style.com before the ceremonies began, "because the most inspiring thing for me is the men and women who devote their lives to eradicating HIV and AIDS, so an inspiration award to me is really for them."

The Hollywood Hills seemed like a fitting backdrop for the honoree, who recently announced that he'll be showing his Fall '15 collection in Los Angeles instead of London next year to better accommodate the Oscars. (His show and the awards ceremony were originally slated just a day apart.) "Now how much global press do you think I would have gotten showing the day before the Oscars?" Ford asked, adding that the chance to work on the collection in the SoCal sunshine also had its appeal. "So I thought," he continued, "Well, why don't I just show in L.A.?"

Milk Studios was packed with Ford's celebrity admirers, including host Gwyneth Paltrow, Lea Michele, January Jones, and Eddie Redmayne. "I'm always looking for the white Gucci dresses with the cutouts on eBay," Milla Jovovich said, alluding to a favorite Ford collection from the '90s, while Rose McGowan revealed that she owns seven of the designer's tuxedos. "He can cut," McGowan said. For Dita Von Teese, it's Ford's unique brand of

seven of the designer's sketches. He can't say, though, that for Daria Von Fosse, it's Ford's unique brand of femininity that resonates most with her own aesthetic. "He speaks to a lot of sexuality and eroticism in his work, which I love."

Culture / Parties: amfAR Inspiration Gala - Rihanna, Miley Cyrus, Tom Ford

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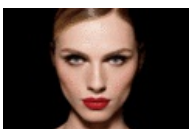
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