

# Patrons Go All Leather and Chains for Art Center Benefit

Tattoos, studded dog collars, and biker leathers blended with little black dresses and tuxedos June 23 as 300-plus guests gathered for the Salt Lake Art Center's extravaganza, "Love, Lust and

Motorcycles," raising close to \$85,000 for center projects. A dozen gleaming bikes

were parked at the center, although some riders' leather designer duds clearly were not meant for the open road. Still, a walk on the wild side, even for an evening, is tempting, and event chairwoman/fashion maven Sharon Loya was wearing a discreet tattoo when she greeted guests.

By dinner time, artist Traci

O'Very Covey's "Love, Lust and Motorcycles" black, red and gold logo was tattooed on many and various body sites. Rumor has it that with careful bathing, the tattoos lasted for days.

Bikers included Art Center director Ric Collier and 2001 Madeleine Award for Distinguished Service to the Arts and Humanities winner Aden Ross, Jill White, Jim and Julie Shipman and biker poets Jean Howard, Dallin Maybee and Rob Van Tuyle. Also present were Joe Timmons and folks from Harley-Davidson Buell of Salt Lake City.

The purpose of the Salt Lake Art Center is to encourage contemporary visual artists and art that challenges and educates public perceptions of civil, social and aesthetic issues affecting society. The center explores provocative issues relevant to contemporary society, not limited by past precedent, boundaries or policies.



Vicki Griffith and Mark Tolman at "Love, Lust and Motorcycles" benefit for the Salt Lake Art Center.

An auction of striking and unusual art pieces — some of which raised eyebrows hairline high — drew the attention of Bob and Bonnie Miller, Bill Loya, Anne and Sandy Dolowitz, Bill and Julia Reagan, Johna Brems, Eleanor Thomas, Mark Tolman and Vicki Griffith, Thom Sawyer, Michael Shuping, Bob and Carol Dawson, Jolene and Brent Shimada, J. Phil White, Steve and Vicki Boyer and Russell and Phyllis Rogler.

Artist Susan Kirby, whose studded leather mermaid was an auction knockout, was there with Jesse Riley. Tim and Stephanie Harp checked the silent-auction bidding with Keith Lobis, Patti and Herb Pavey, Susan and Peter Litvak, Edie and Neil Kochenour and Phil and Bettie Barlow.

When the doors opened, guests found a stunning setting of black covered tables and chairs, with shiny silver motorcycle parts caged in wrought-iron candle holders. A single stemless red rose in a silver holder defined each



Photos by Judy Magid/The Salt Lake Tribune

"Love, Lust and Motorcycles" event chairwoman Sharon Loya and Bill Loya at benefit for the Salt Lake Art Center.

the biker poetry illuminating. Gary Vlasic created a menu scarce on the open road — port-wine-poached pear and duck prosciutto, Cabrales cheese and grilled Belgian endive for starters and a main course of lavender-and-fennel-rubbed salmon with Israeli couscous — followed by indescribably rich chocolate cake bars and other desserts.

Gary and Paula Evershed went back and forth from the dinner table to check bids, while Jonathan Horne drove away with the Harley-Davidson 1200 Sportster donated by David Thomas, Juliette Olydroyde and John Stasco dined with Prescott and Sharon Muir. Board president Val Antczack and vice president Bernardo Flores-Sahagun



Jill White in dress leathers at "Love, Lust and Motorcycles."

were there, as were treasurer Gil Miller and past president Greg Williams and Daphne Williams, Mikel Covey, Carl and Vanessa Laurella, Craig and Joanna Adamson and Diane and Paul Diehl.

As the party wound down, disc jockey Jesse Walker had guests humming "Born to Be Wild" all the way up the steps and down West Temple.

The Salt Lake Tribune



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SUNDAY  
JULY 14,  
2002

RSVP with leather and tattoos