

party patrol

OUT AND ABOUT WITH THE

BEST-DRESSED GUEST LISTS

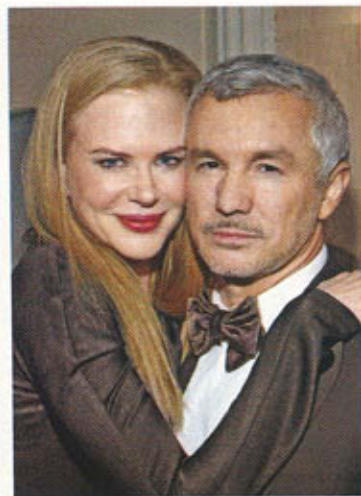


Jay Lyon (of MTV's *The City*) and his Tamarama bandmate Nicolas Potts hit the Australia Week gala at the Waldorf. "We named our band after the beach where we grew up," Jay said.



"I come from politically radical parents who took me to rallies as a baby. I thought it was all very confusing and weird."—Josh Lucas, on being born into politics

New York party fixtures Tim Robbins and Josh Lucas made their way down to Washington for the Manifest Hope: DC inauguration party.



Nicole Kidman said of director Baz Luhrmann (right) at the Waldorf: "He shot me for *Australian Vogue*. That's when I fell in love with him."

The Economics of Opulence

Sure it's become fashionable to grumble about the recession, but in New York, cost-cutting is relative. "I own a building and I'm looking to buy another one, but I'm having trouble renting out one of my gorgeous apartments," said socialite **Maggie Betts** at a dinner **Eric Villency** threw at Bobo. And if it doesn't rent, well, "It's more capital appreciation, so it doesn't bother me." Phew! Epcally romantic director **Baz Luhrmann** also yearned for a pre-crash gilded age: "I'm considering [a remake of] *Gatsby*," he said, his arm slung around **Nicole Kidman** at the Waldorf-Astoria. "I own the rights." As for the looming specter of a cash-strapped Fashion Week, **Donna Karan** waved away cynics: "Fashion Week will never be dead!" she declared. Meanwhile, back at Bobo, **Ann Dexter-Jones** (below, far left, with PR queen **Kim Vernon**) showed off a blue diamond bracelet from her upcoming fine jewelry line—look for her baubles on designer daughter **Charlotte Ronson's** fall runway. "Nobody needs another bracelet. They're luxury items," Ann said. So will she sell them online to the hoi polloi? "Uh, I don't think so." As stylist **Kate Schelter** put it, in certain circles, "It's business as usual, baby!" —Reporting by Shira Levine, Ira Madison and Bennett Marcus



Above: Shakira mingled with Long Island residents Marc Anthony and Jennifer Lopez at D.C.'s Latino Inaugural Gala. Left: Jessica Joffe and Maggie Betts dined and dished at Bobo.

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**Page
Six**
Magazine

FEBRUARY 1, 2009

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