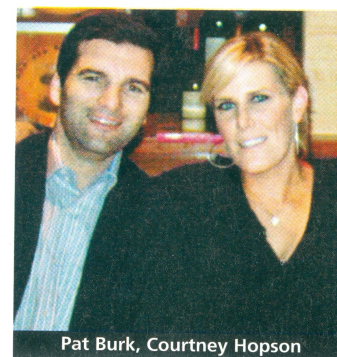


BY RYLAND HOLMES PEVETO  
PHOTOGRAPHY RAJAT CHOPRA, FARA JAVADI

# Painting the Town



Hunt Slonem



Pat Burk, Courtney Hopson



Liz & Tom Glanville

# with Hunt Slonem

Friends and followers of artist **Hunt Slonem** flocked to Sloan/Hall for a cocktail party and book signing in his honor, co-hosted by *PaperCity* magazine. The colorful crowd swooped up Slonem's newest tome, *Pleasure Palaces*, an homage to his homes and art. Looking dapper in a yellow-and-purple houndstooth jacket and purple glasses, the now-turned-southern gent signed books, chit-chatted with guests and reminded us of how genteel the real South can be.



**O**n an evening that was way too warm for the turtleneck dress I'd chosen, Sloan/Hall proprietors **Shannon Hall** and **Marcus Sloan** welcomed the crowd, many with books and Sharpies in hand, who all sipped and waited for their moment with the artist. In line were **Judith Oudt**, **Jay Jones**, and **George Lancaster** — the latter an exercise in efficiency, as always, with his black down vest by Gossuin, its closure magnetized instead of

zipped; Found's **Ruth Davis** and **Aaron Rambo**; **Erin Florescu** with pirate-son **Nicholas**, dressed for a school play; **Ceron**; **Diane Lokey Farb**; **Patsy** and **Greg Fourticq**; **Tom Furlan**, who I almost missed because he was wearing head-to-toe camouflage; **Joe Shaffer**; **Jackson Hicks** with **Milton Townsend** in a Gilley's T-shirt and Vivienne Westwood red Mary Janes. In case you've never been to a Sloan/Hall party — and, really, there's no excuse for that — staffer **Debbie Yee** makes not only the best cookies you've ever tasted, but she's also damn good at

the robot. The night ended at Bar Annie, with Hunt's gracious friend **Shahrazad Khayami**, who'd accompanied him from New York; **Shannon Hall** and **Marcus Sloan**, of course; and admirers **John** and **Becca Cason Thrash**, **Sima** and **Masoud Ladjevardian**, **Monseur Taghdisi** with **Christopher Mendel**, **Patricia Peckinpaugh Griffith**, and **Cynthia Cage McClain** of McClain Gallery, Slonem's gallery in Houston. Cynthia, by the way, is the only person on the planet who can make an eye patch look chic. (One was protecting her scratched cornea.) Of

course, the Marni dress, Chanel jacket and Gucci shoes didn't hurt. And, as her husband Robert later pointed out, "The patch was satin, after all." Cocktail chatter came around to the dinner the night before in Slonem's honor at Armandos, hosted by his good friend **Don Mafrige Jr.** Passing tortillas were **John** and **Becca Cason Thrash**, **Erin** and **Nick Florescu**, **Courtney** and **Bo Hopson**, **Jana** and **Richard Fant**, **Andrew Echols**, **Pat Burk**, and **Michael Mithoff**. Hunt, exhausted, left the next morning for one of his Louisiana plantations.

