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LAST NIGHT'S TRIFECTA- MANHATTAN HOUSE, JAMES HUNIFORD AND CREATIVE GROWTH

JASMINE LOMBARDI

Not only did James Huniford stunningly design a 9-room residence at Manhattan House, but he chose to use it as a platform to support Creative Growth—the first non-profit art center dedicated to artists with developmental, physical, and mental disabilities. Huniford's look of quirky items mixed with chic furnishings (of his own design or extensively modified) makes this residence the perfect space to spotlight the artwork from Creative Growth, not to mention entertain.

Creative Growth's artist Dan Miller's playful and lively works hang in the living and dining rooms but I particularly love the stack of his densely scribbled skateboard decks that hang in the hallway. Judith Scott's sculptures wrapped in fabric and yarn and watercolors by Aurie Ramirez are also scattered throughout the residence. Last night, Manhattan House opened its doors to James Huniford's signature residence for cocktails and hors d'oeuvres to celebrate artwork from Creative Growth and White Columns (New York's oldest alternative art space). All of the artwork in Huniford's residence was available for purchase. Specialty cocktails like strawberry mojitos (my personal fave) and lychee margaritas only helped the supportive guests feel all warm and fuzzy inside.

Along with Huniford, New Yorkers showing their support included Shail Upadhyia (of Stylelikeu.com), Tom DiMaria (Creative Growth), Matthew Higgs (White Columns), Ellen Newhouse (co-host for event), Tori Mellott, Pipa McArdle, Lynn Ban and Maria Robinson who has a namesake salon and is colorist to Uma Thurman, Scarlett Johansson, Anne Hathaway and more.