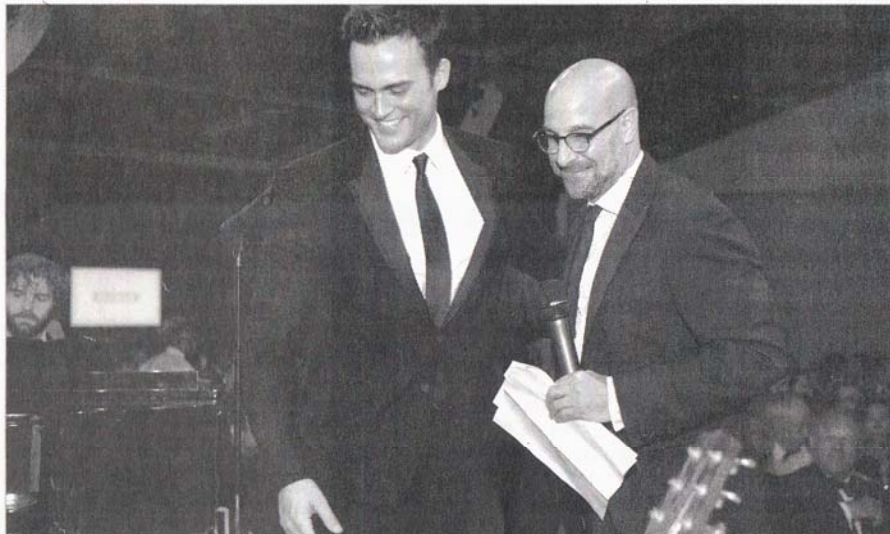


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Two by Two bidding frenzy defies weather



Cheyenne Jackson (left) of *30 Rock* opened the show at Saturday night's Two by Two for AIDS and Art benefit, and Stanley Tucci was the gala's honorary chairman.

Bruno

One might think that football-minded Cowboys owner **Jerry Jones** couldn't hang with the campy humor from the celebs at Saturday night's Two by Two for AIDS and Art benefit. (After designer **Kenneth Cole** riffed about his pal **Stanley Tucci**'s two Golden Globes, he introduced headliner **Alan Cumming**, who was recently honored by the queen of England. "It's so odd, because he's a queen from Scotland," Cole said. *Hi-yo!*)

Jerry and his wife, **Gene**, and their daughter, **Charlotte**, and her husband, **Shy Anderson**, laughed along from their stage-side table in a lavish tent at the estate of art patrons **Cindy and Howard Rachofsky**. But the Jones party turned serious when the spirited bidding started for a large **Matthew Ritchie** painting, *A Soldier's Heart*. Sotheby's auctioneer **Jamie Niven**, son of the late actor David Niven, was about to let the piece go for \$120,000, when Jerry almost imperceptibly lifted one finger and bought it for \$125,000. (The Joneses commissioned Ritchie to paint the enormous *Line of Play* above the entrance to Cowboys Stadium's main concourse.)

Where will the new painting



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hang?

"We're not sure," Jerry said. "It might come home or it might find its way to the stadium."

Two by Two's millions

The fast and furious live auction bidding at Two by Two became so cost-prohibitive that those of us with a triple-digit net worth sat still as statues for fear of becoming indentured servants with an inadvertent nose scratch.

A *Marc Quinn* oil sold for \$140,000, while **Richard Phillips'** portrait of **Lindsay Lohan** fetched a staggering \$360,000. But the big winner was **Christopher Wool's** untitled silkscreen. With the artist present, it sold for \$675,000.

By the final gavel, Two by Two had brought in a record-breaking \$4.2 million, making it the single largest fundraiser for its two beneficiaries, the American Foundation for AIDS

Research and the Dallas Museum of Art.

Not singin' in the rain

No one was more concerned about Saturday's wrath-of-God weather destroying the Two by Two tent than Broadway star and *30 Rock* cast member **Cheyenne Jackson**, who opened the show.

Since the death of Paul Newman, Cheyenne is now the most handsome member of the Screen Actors Guild, and his honey-laced voice would intimidate Sinatra.

On Saturday afternoon, he dutifully appeared at the Rachofsky House during thunderstorms for his sound check. "Two different times we started to play," he said. "Two different times everything started to sway." He never did get his run-through.

"Nah," he said casually. "I just had to bang it out tonight. The show must go on."

As Alan Cumming joined his band onstage just before the cheese course, he signaled the waitstaff to begin serving.

In his Scottish accent, he noted, "I never thought I'd be in a tent in Dallas in the middle of a tornado ordering the cheese to be brought in."