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Breaking Records and Busting Moves at the New York Botanical Garden's Winter Wonderland Ball

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Natalie Bloomingdale, Ariana Rockefeller in Roland Mouret, and Georgina Bloomberg

Photo: Angela Pham/BFA.com

It's become something of a tradition: On the eve of the New York Botanical Garden's Winter Wonderland Ball, New York City receives its first proper blanket of snow. True to form, on Friday evening, the gentle flurries quickly accumulated into several inches, but the trek from Manhattan to the landmark locale in the Bronx didn't pose much of a threat. Most of the guests, in all their finery, had done it before. They're a tight-knit community of young patrons who, this year, brought in more than \$300,000 to fund the garden's programming and exhibits, like the dazzling Chihuly glassworks, which saw a staggering 600,000 visitors during its run.

The group included trio Natalie Bloomingdale, Georgina Bloomberg, and Ariana Rockefeller, who this year opted for a gown by Roland Mouret and a swath of vintage jewels, among them a diamond and aquamarine brooch by Raymond C. Yard. The one-of-a-kind piece—originally a gift given to her grandmother by her grandfather David Rockefeller—is now a precious heirloom that only appears on special occasions.



The place settings at dinner



Nina Agdal in Etro

For Nina Agdal, the scene inside the garden's Enid A. Haupt Conservatory, where the cocktail hour took place, was all new. "I've never been here, but I'm so excited," she told *Vogue*, standing alongside the always-anticipated train display, which weaves through the endless rooms of rare flora. "I'm expecting a lot of glitter and silver and sparkle to match this beautiful dress—I feel like a winter princess!"

While Agdal admitted she was not prepared to battle the snowfall, many black tie-clad guests also donned their best foul-weather gear. For Pamela Tick, it meant accessorizing her Etro gown with a knit beanie, and for stylist Micaela Erlanger and Mac Osborne, a quick change. “I wore a fur and platforms so I didn’t sink in the sludge, but my boyfriend here wore boots under his tux pants and changed into his loafers,” she said with a laugh. “You have to have no shame.”

The same sentiment carried on throughout the evening. Shameless Champagne swilling led to shameless moves on the dance floor, all from the largest crowd in history to attend the Winter Wonderland Ball, making this year one for the record books.



Micaela Erlanger



Caitlin FitzGerald and May Kwok in Etro



Timo Weiland and Mia Moretti in Etro



Savannah Engel



The scene on the dance floor



Michaela Vybohova and Alexandre Assouline



Sarah Chilton in Etro



Pamela Tick in Etro