

## Tees for Two

Talk about site-specific art. Painter **Lisa Yuskavage's** images of topless nymphets have a new venue: the chests of collectors who have snapped up limited-edition, skin-tight T-shirts emblazoned with the artist's well-endowed beauties.

Yuskavage created two editions of 300 shirts as a fund-raiser—sponsored by Marianne Boesky Gallery and Yvonne Force Inc./Art Production Fund—for White Columns, the nonprofit Manhattan art space. One shows a nearly nude girl rendered in black and white, printed on either a skimpy light green muscle shirt or a bright pink tank top.



A limited-edition Lisa Yuskavage adorns this bright pink tanktop.

The other edition presents an image of a pinup lifting her blouse to expose a breast, reproduced on white tees.

Yuskavage, who confesses she never wears T-shirts, cautions collectors to gently pull the garments on, warning that “if you’re not careful, the

image could get stretched”—particularly if the T-shirts are worn by someone with the same buxom proportions as her subjects.

At \$50, the shirts are a relative bargain: earlier this year at Christie's, Yuskavage's watercolor *Tit Heaven* sold above estimate for \$7,638. Model-esque photographer **Dana Hoey** admits she nabbed one of the sexy shirts. “I’m going to go with its purpose—and show it off,” she says. —*Reena Jana*

## Sum Salutation

Artist **Donald Baechler** cleared out his high-ceilinged SoHo loft for a charity auction early this summer, to raise money for the modern-dance company DanielandsomeSuperfriends, headed by **Daniel Wilkins**. Downtown denizens in attendance included photographers, dancers, gallerist **Jose Martos** of Kagan Martos, and yogini **Kelly Morris**, a popular teacher at Jivamukti Yoga Center who regularly commands **Russell Simmons** and **Christy Turlington** into downward dogs.

Bidding was heated for a private yoga lesson from Morris's former colleague **Duncan Wong** (who now runs his own studio, Shiva-shala); it eventually sold for \$200, while a massage went for \$150, both well above average New York prices. But paintings and prints by **Mark Turgeon**, **Jim Oliveira**, and **Billy Sullivan** sold under market values of \$1,000 to \$1,500. When bidding for Oliveira's blue-ink triptych opened at \$500, someone yelled out, “Wrong crowd.” And though an attention-getting leather corset signed by **Alba Clemente**



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**PARROTING FRIDA:** Yasumasa Morimura has long impersonated the subjects of famous paintings by van Gogh, Velázquez, and Leonardo, among others. As *Mona Lisa*, he put on maquillage, a wig, and photographed himself with the enigmatic smile. Now comes “Inner Dialogue with Frida Kahlo” at Tokyo's Hara Museum of Contemporary Art (through the 20th), featuring 12 photographs in which he inserted his face—with dark makeup and the famous eyebrow—into familiar Kahlo portraits. In an accompanying video installation *Morimura and Frida* (played by Morimura) converse in Japanese and Spanish. The series is also being shown from the eighth of this month at New York's *Luhring Augustine Gallery* (through October 6) and at Paris's *Galerie Thaddaeus Ropac* (through October 2). “Kahlo's work embodies all the important aspects of life,” says Morimura, “like love, agony, joy, and sickness, in a very fierce way.” —*Kay Itoi*

was fetchingly modeled by a slim brunette, the impoverished avant-garde wouldn't bid high enough. Auctioneer (and interior designer by day) **Ricky Clifton** refused to part with it for less than \$500, or with **Diane von Furstenberg's** “museum-quality” Balinese puppet for less than \$1,000—so both remain in each woman's col-

lection for now. Baechler, at least, sold well in his own home. Martos outbid a man who'd been quietly sitting in the corner all evening to take the host's print for \$2,500. Meanwhile, Wilkins's company cleared enough to fund its next performance, in November at Diane von Furstenberg Studio.

—*Carly Berwick*