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NEWS

Social Studies: 'Art' of etiquette takes center stage









Last night, French luxury company Christofle taught a handful of Hub socials a thing or two about manners. The Art of the Table dinner, held at Liquid Art House in Boston, brought together local art, media, design and culture experts for a four-course meal by LAH chef Rachel Klein.

Christofle brand ambassador and Miami store manager Justin Trabert presented lessons on entertaining and dining etiquette, ranging from the correct usage of flatware to the preferred method for setting a table.

"This event is all about why it's important to know how entertain in your home," Trabert said.

Dining divas included glam octogenarian Doris Yaffe, architect Dartagnan Brown, "This Old House" designer Christine Tuttle, James Beard Foundation "Taste" columnist Saba Wahid, hospitality consultant Bill Emery, event producer and former pageant impresaria AJ Williams and Urbanspoon food blogger Debbie Grubstein.

At first, the "lessons" seemed a tad condescending (I already have table manners, thank you) and perhaps a fun excuse for Chrisofle to market their new kiosk at the restaurant. I did, however, (despite the noisy background) learn a thing or two from Trabert:

"True etiquette was never intended to make anyone uncomfortable, it was a set of rules for the hostess so she could entertain and make everyone feel comfortable." Thanks, Monsieur Manners.

Style stars:

- · Real estate consultant Paul Miller, in a custom-made shirt from India, madras Beacon Hill bowtie, Jack Spade blazer, shorts by Scotch and Ralph Lauren loafers.
- Event and botanical designer Sarah Anne DiNardo, in a metallic dress from Anthropologie's new wedding collection, sparkly pumps from Barney's, new Aldo clutch and vintage baubles.



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