

# The Daily Traveler

## Photos: Ian Somerhalder and Freida Pinto Weren't the Only Celebs at our Visionaries Party Last Night



Ian Somerhalder, Freida Pinto, and Geoffrey Zakarian were among the VIP guests at last night's Condé Nast Traveler party celebrating the individuals recognized as our [2013 Visionaries](#) and the travel companies honored as our [2013 World Savers](#).

In addition to Somerhalder and Pinto, the guest list included French-Tunisian graffiti artist eL Seed, art dealer Jeffrey Deitch, MoMA's design curator Paola Antonelli, Botswana's Foreign Minister Tshkedi Khama, Warby Parker founder Neil Blumenthal, and HFZ Capital Group's Ziel Feldman.

The small group of artists, diplomats, billionaires and celebs gathered in the swanky, not-yet-open-to-the-public [The Marquand at 11 East 68th Street](#), where they got a sneak peek of one of the building's \$16 million condos designed by architect Lee Mindel.

While we love knowing that we threw a good party—made even more festive by the liberally flowing Dom Pérignon—we're most proud of the connections we helped foster last night and the conversations that were inspired by having that many globally minded game changers in a room together. Here are some of the most memorable moments we witnessed:

- ▶ Leaning in as if they were plotting a secret revolution, Ian Somerhalder and National Resources Defense Council President Peter Lehner talked about environmental biologist Allan Savory and fighting desertification.
- ▶ Ian Somerhalder to Tshekedi Khama, Botswana Minister of Environment and Tourism: "In all humility, sir, Allan Savory has a plan that will help revitalize the Chobe National Park and establish Botswana as the leader in sustainable development in Africa. I have a Power Point I would like to show you..."
- ▶ Sustainability guru Jib Ellison (who led Wal-Mart down the green path) to Neil Blumenthal, founder of Warby Parker, which gives away a pair of glasses for every pair sold: "I love your company. My glasses are from Warby Parker!"
- ▶ Visionaries Freida Pinto and Ian Somerhalder with World Savers winner Swiss Ambassador François Barras, whose government is leading the way on environmental policy: "We have a voice and can communicate messages about changing the world, but you [government leaders] are the ones who getting things done."
- ▶ Whole World Water cofounder Karena Albers: "This event is going to lead to so much good."
- ▶ Kathleen Matthews, sustainability powerhouse at Marriott, which is opening a hotel in Port au Prince, and humanitarian aid expert, filmmaker, and RYOT.org founder Bryn Mooser hatched ideas for Haitiprojects. "She's awesome." said Bryn.
- ▶ Museum of Modern Art Senior Curator of Architecture & Design Paola Antonelli meeting Visionary eL Seed: "I know your work."
- ▶ Bryn Mooser, humanitarian and founder of RYOT.org, hugging Visionary Greg Allgood, who has delivered six billion liters of safe drinking water to the developing world: "He's so awesome, a real hero. And he's my bro—we climbed Mount Kilimanjaro together."
- ▶ Curator Jeffrey Deitch on eL Seed: "He is going to emerge as one of the truly important artists of his age. He has tremendous talents, and he is an amazing communicator."



The party took place in The Marquand at 11 East 68th Street, which was built 100 years ago on the site of the original home of Henry P. Marquand, founder of the Metropolitan Museum of Art.