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A photograph of a dining room. A long, dark wood table is set with white plates, silverware, and glassware. A vase of orange flowers sits in the center. The walls are covered in yellow wallpaper with a pink and orange floral pattern. A large, white, cylindrical chandelier hangs from the ceiling. The ceiling is decorated with a complex arrangement of thin, white, string-like structures. The room is lit with warm, ambient lighting.

La Fantasie Japonaise,
designed by Duffy
Design Group,
sponsored by Sanford
Custom Builders

THE ULTIMATE DINNER PARTY

At Boston's second annual Dining by Design gala, top local and national talent pooled their collective genius to create 23 dining tableaux. The displays introduced top trends for 2009, while the fund-raiser, hosted by the Boston Design Center and the Design Industries Foundation Fighting AIDS, garnered nearly \$200,000 to benefit Community Research Initiative of New England, a leader in HIV and AIDS care. We've selected our favorite tables from that magical evening — four delicious combinations sure to inspire your next design-forward bash.

Written by MOLLY JANE QUINN • Photography by ERIC ROTH



LA FANTASIE JAPONAISE

Interior designer Dennis Duffy's concept for this glowing pavilion (PAGE 92), built by Sanford Custom Builders, began with the wallpaper he used to cover the interior panels. The table base is sandblasted acrylic and lit from within by fuchsia LED lights that give the entire room a warm pink glow. Making the most of the clear tabletop, Duffy forwent table linens in favor of placing the plates, cutlery, and wineglasses directly on the acrylic slab. Industrial metal-ball chains radiate out from the chandelier to create a sparkling canopy.



MOTIF: A cluster of gerbera daisies in the center of the table references the custom wall panels covered in a floral Art Deco Japanese paper. While daisies generally signify purity and innocence, the gerbera is a symbol of hopefulness, a spirit embodied by Duffy's fresh design.

PLACE SETTING: Duffy mixed three Tiffany & Co. sterling services for an inventive assortment of flatware, and topped silver-and-white china chargers with a red-rimmed glass bowl infused with a peachy hue. The lighthearted result is perfect for a spring soiree.