







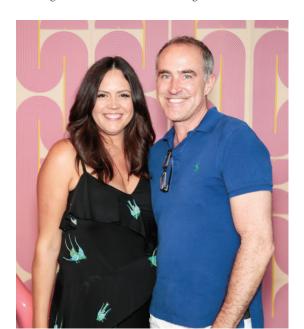
Hey, Neighbor!

AMONG THE MANY PHRASES I HEAR AS THE editorial director of $HC \in G$ are "You must go to a lot of events" and "You must know everyone in the Hamptons by now." My replies: yes and no. Some days I feel like I've seen every house and met every person on the East End, but that's far from true. The Hamptons are filled with interesting micro-communities and fascinating people, and for every dinner party where I know everyone in the room, there's one the next day where I meet five or 10 new people. The other night, for example, my friends Randy Culpepper and Greg Holbrook threw a neighborhood cocktail party, where I met Sergio Canetti and Julio Grosse for the first



time—even though they have lived around the corner for 10 years. While shooting the Holiday House Hamptons showhouse for HCGG last month, I met the talented Gene Valle, who works for home-accessories designer Elizabeth Dow and lives full-time in Sag Harbor (which means I *don't* know everyone who lives in Sag Harbor). And a year after publishing two of decorator Elena Frampton's projects in HCGG and NYCGG, I finally had the pleasure of meeting her at the opening of Exhibition, her cool new gallery just a few blocks away from my house.

I'll confess that I just want to stay in some evenings, but it's a lot more fun to get out there and mingle.



The Social Whirl
Designer Elena Frampton and me at the opening
of Exhibition, her gallery in Bridgehampton.

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TOP TO BOTTOM: TOM MCWILLIAM; ERIC STRIFFLER





Style Setters

What's the best-looking hangout in the Hamptons?

