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on the SCENE

BY BENTLEY CURTIS

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE BEACH DESTINATION?

ELIZABETH GILLIES →
 “I went to the Virgin Islands, and that was very fun. I felt like I was in a snow globe, but it was water. You’re in your own little world.”



← **SHARON LAWRENCE**
 “I love the Indian Ocean. I was lucky enough to scuba dive in Bali, and it’s just astounding to be in that type of water. It’s very unique.”



WHALE OF A TIME
 Celebs gathered in Beverly Hills to support the conservation of the world’s oceans.

↑ **KATHARINE MCPHEE**
 “My favorite is probably in Thailand. This last spring I spent some time on the Phi Phi Island. It’s so tropical, and you’re really far removed from everything.”



↑ **MARY STEENBURGEN**
 “Kahana on Maui. I love how romantic it is. It’s not manicured, and it’s wild—I love that!”

JANUARY JONES →
 “I went to Belize with Oceana to swim with whale sharks, which was incredible. That was my favorite trip in the last five years or so.”



THE PARTY The Wallis Annenberg Center for Performing Arts set the stage for Oceana’s mindfully curated benefit, **A Concert for Our Oceans**. The musical program featured performances from a bevy of talented artists, including **Kristen Bell**, **Amanda Seyfried** and **Kesha**, alongside the 50-member Blue Oceans Orchestra, providing the right blend of sophistication and timelessness. **THE SCENE** An idyllic patio welcomed guests who sipped on libations and indulged in sumptuous bite-size hors d’oeuvres, like glazed duck on baby bao buns. As the sun descended, a convivial aura filled the open space, where notable attendees like **January Jones** and *Modern Family*’s **Nolan Gould** enjoyed the alfresco reception while **Sharon Lawrence** and **Katharine McPhee** prepped their voices backstage. **THE HIGHLIGHTS** After expressing her love for music and writing, the sweet and soft-spoken **Mary Steenburgen** charmed the audience with a surprise performance of a song entitled “I Choose You,” which she wrote for her husband, **Ted Danson**. **THE QUESTION** With an event centered on saving the oceans of the world, we couldn’t help but pose the question: **What’s your favorite beach destination?**

PHOTOS BY POWLINC