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HEARD & SCENE

Rapper Rocks Charity Benefit



Andrew Tobey/PatrickMcMullan (2)

Above, Douglas Durst, who was honored; Alan Myers, Swizz Beatz and Darryl 'DMC' McDaniels

Guests at Tuesday night's sixth annual Children's Rights benefit were treated to a shirtless, high-energy performance by Darryl "DMC" McDaniels, of Run-DMC fame, inside the genteel Plaza Hotel ballroom.

Mr. McDaniels performed hits like "Tricky" (sample lyrics: "These girls are really sleazy / All they just say is please me"), for former Gov. David Paterson, Cece Cord, Julie and Billy Macklowe, and Swizz Beatz, who were gathered to raise money for the organization. The charity increases awareness and support

for neglected children in foster care across the nation. (Mr. McDaniels was adopted, he said.)

The crowd seemed initially leery of the performance, but eventually began nodding heads, taking iPhone photos and throwing hands in the air. Still, it was a polarizing moment for a charitable gala: A number of folks darted out of the room midway through Mr. McDaniels's set, when audience participation was requested, while one middle-age woman actually got on stage to dance.

"That was awesome," said Douglas Durst, a commercial developer being honored that

evening.

Swizz Beatz, who donated \$10,000 to the charity during an auction, concurred. "One more song, and I would have been on stage," he said.

The former governor has been seen out and about a bit less lately. "I miss the Executive Mansion. What a cool place. Nothing like getting up and walking past Roosevelt's wheelchair before you go to work! If you see the new governor, tell him that if there's an extra seat at his table, I'd love to come by."

—Mike Vilensky