

PHOTO GALLERY

The United States Equestrian Team (USET) Foundation hosts the **Gold Medal Club Reception**

**JANUARY 17, 2025 • THE WANDERERS CLUB • WELLINGTON, FL**

**1** Kristi Mitchem along with John and Beezie Madden and USET Foundation Trustee Angela Vogel • **2** Kat Fuqua is presented with the Lionel Guerrand-Hermès Trophy by USET Foundation Chairman W. James McNerney, Jr. and USET Foundation President and CEO Kristi Mitchem • **3** Rebecca Hart (right) and Paralympic owner Rowan O'Riley

PHOTOS: JUMP MEDIA



COLUMN

**From Appliance to Art**

When we encounter art, or "the unexpected inevitable," as Elizabeth Gilbert defines it, we might wonder: *How did I get so lucky?* This is what takes your breath away, allows contemplation, and inspires awe. On the other hand, there's a lot of life that is pure appliance: Expected, hardware, completely unimagined.

This is your new monthly equine pop culture contribution—think: Where *The Onion* meets *The New Yorker*—to rate what we're seeing out there, from Appliance to Art. Take it with a grain of salt and a hearty sense of humor. For the love of all things horse, don't @ us. Have an idea for an entry? Email us at [editor@theplaidhorse.com](mailto:editor@theplaidhorse.com) and we might include it in our next column.

APPLIANCE TO ART

- #1** Post-circuit WEF. Why are you still there?
- #2** Barefoot horses: An appliance for soundness.
- #3** Obligatory (and necessary) spring vaccinations & dentals.
- #4** Showing your Connemara pony "Potato Chip" on St. Patty's Day.
- #5** Awkwardly sweaty lessons (not hot, not cold, but real hot when you work out).
- #6** Bra horse hair buildup after "light grooming." We know, it's so itchy.
- #7** "Mental health is wealth." Courtesy of WIHS "Kind Wins" campaign.
- #8** "Mud art" that shows up on your boots, girth, and beyond.
- #9** Spending spring break at a winter circuit.
- #10** The US Equestrian Open Jumping Final being added to the Wellington International for Rolex Season Finale.