

THE PARTY LINE-UP

Invites are piling up and the Champagne is on ice. But what to wear? And who will be there? Here, to help you navigate what can be a social minefield, are the three types of guest you're most likely to encounter...

By Grace Cain / Illustrations Rohan Eason



The Minimalist

You'll spot the laid-back, fashion-forward Minimalist immediately because, no matter what the dress code is, he won't have followed it. Indeed, he probably won't have strayed far from his uniform of slightly oversized, artfully layered

separates from his current wardrobe rotation; this season's favourites include Jil Sander, OAMC and Rochas. He'll almost certainly be lounging on the sofa, shunning small talk in favour of his iPhone 11. Grab a couple of Old Bakery Gin and tonics and sidle up to him for all the intel on which upcoming artist's work you should be investing in. Oh, and that fragrance wafting over you? Le Labo's Santal 33. The Minimalist wouldn't leave home without it.

Get the look



JIL SANDER shirt £440



COMMON PROJECTS sneakers £325



LE LABO Santal 33, 50ml, £127



JIL SANDER trousers £325



ROCHAS coat £1,840



The Peacock

Sporting a plunging, glittering Saint Laurent shirt under his most flamboyant Gucci suit, the Peacock did not come to this party to be overlooked. For a word in his ear, you'll have to squeeze through the small

crowd that's gathered to watch him sip French martinis and muse on the Berlin art exhibition that inspired his most recent album. Every now and then, he'll pause to change the playlist to one of his favourite bands (no, you won't have heard of any of them). When the night starts to wind down, you'll want to be in his vicinity: afterparties are the Peacock's speciality. Why else would he have installed that Linn sound system in his penthouse?

Get the look



GUCCI trousers from a selection



GUCCI jacket from a selection



GUCCI loafers £530



ACQUA DI PARMA Oud 100ml, £197



SAINT LAURENT shirt £510



The Traditionalist

Locating the Traditionalist is easy – just look for the suavest man in the room. His sartorial calling cards? A winning smile and a Tom Ford tux (although, for a more casual affair, he'll opt for a Loro

Piana knit and classic Gucci loafers; the Traditionalist would be utterly horrified at the thought of being overdressed). Swoop by his corner of the room if you want to know the best place to dine in Shanghai, or the show to see right now in New York. This global connoisseur is always happy to reveal his secrets. Expect to be greeted with a handshake, an offer of a Chivas Regal (on the rocks) and a surprisingly genuine 'How do you do?'

Get the look



TOM FORD bow tie £175



BYREDO Slow Dance 100ml, £165



MAGNANNI shoes £260



TOM FORD suit £3,260



TOM FORD shirt £395