

# VANITY FAIR

## New York Society Celebrates the Season with a Screening of *500 Days of Summer*



**Zoey Deschanel** made an on-screen-only appearance to welcome guests to the Cinema Society's New York City screening of her new film *500 Day of Summer*, as she was on her way to Ireland, having scored an acting job at the last minute. Editor **Anna Wintour** was among those who flocked to the **Tribeca Grand hotel** to watch the indie rom-com. Various members of her extended brood were there as well, including daughter **Bee Shaffer**, who was sitting next to *Vogue* favorites designer **Jason Wu** and model **Hilary Rodha**.

After the bittersweet film ended, guests including **Jake Hoffman**, **Lola Schnabel**, **Leighton Meester**, and **Lorenzo Martone** trod the familiar path to the **SoHo Grand hotel** for the Brooks Brothers and Cotton after-party that Cinema Society founder **Andrew Saffir** hosted. Over fried-oyster po'boys and lobster rolls, cast member **Geoffrey Arend** discussed the film. "It was two guys that wrote the script," he said. "Then **Marc Webb** directed, and then four out of five of the producers were also men, and they are all romantics. We're all big saps, so I really thought it was interesting to have a romantic comedy from the point of view of a lovesick man." Native New Yorker **Michael Weber**, who co-wrote the movie with Los Angeles-based **Scott Neustadter**, elaborated: "I think we've all been a 'Tom' and we've all been a 'Summer,' so everything in the movie had happened at some point to one of us, but the catalyst was a horrible breakup that Scott had gone through."

The movie also shows a side of Los Angeles rarely seen on the screen—the historic downtown—which inspires **Joseph Gordon Levitt's** character, who is an architect. "Actually, Scott and I know nothing about architecture," Weber said, "and I probably shouldn't say this, but Wikipedia is a tremendous tool for writers, as you can learn a lot about a city or sound very knowledgeable on a range of topics thanks to people's submissions!"

Also milling about for drinks were plenty of actors, including **Bebe Neuwirth**, **Ben Shenkman**, **Kelsey Grammer**, **Kate Mara**, and **Tom Cavanagh**, as well as D.J. **Leigh Lezark**, **Amy Sacco**, and **Bonnie Morrison**. "It's hard to remember what that feeling of heartache is like now, since I've been with my wife [**Kathryn Neale**] for nine years," said social fixture **Sam Shaffer** about the film...