Whoopi Goldberg, Tom Wolfe honored at Vernon Court

On July 29th, the National Museum of American Illustration, founded by Laurence and Judy Cutler, celebrated its 10th Anniversary in grand Newport Gilded Age style, honoring Whoopi Goldberg, Tom Wolfe and the National Arts Club (NAC) with their inaugural American Civilization Award before 350 guests at Vernon Court. The evening began with a viewing of the landmark exhibition, Norman Rockwell and His Mentor J.C. Leyendecker, a scholarly presentation examining the amazing influence of Leyendecker on Rockwell’s oeuvre. In her acceptance speech, Whoopi expressed her personal interest in, and love of, illustration art. She said the NMAI has delved into the scholarly aspects of illustration in ways never looked at before.