

**VARIETY**SIGN IN    

Subscribe Today!

FILM + TV + DIGITAL + VOICES + VIDEO + SCENE + AWARDS + MORE +

HOME | [SCENE](#) | [VPAGE](#)

## Comedy Bizzers Meat Up at L.A. Beefsteak

EMAIL \* 0 35  
PRINT TALK  

Valeria Macon/Getty Images

DECEMBER 6, 2013 | 07:03PM PT

Festive foodie event benefittd L.A. Food Bank

Pat Saperstein  
@Variety\_PatS

### RELATED STORIES



SCENE

11:58 AM

Mindy Kaling, Anne Sweeney, Bonnie Hammer

It was the kind of evening where an animation producer might take a small white cardboard box out of his pocket and offer, "Would you like a duck tongue?" All manner of animal parts were on the menu at Beefsteak 2013 at Vibiana in downtown L.A. Dec. 7. The annual dinner benefits the L.A. Food Bank by filling the bellies of foodies and assorted showbizers including [Jimmy Kimmel](#), [Bob Odenkirk](#) and [John C. Reilly](#) — many from the comedy side — with steak, chops, headcheese and Rocky Mountain oysters. "Homeland" creator [Gideon Raff](#) was there to support the food bank, even though he's vegan.



MOST POPULAR

The event's creators, "Simpsons" producer [Matt Selman](#) (he wrote the show's food blogger episode, of course), TV comedy exec [Cort Cass](#) and [Eric Wareheim](#) of Tim and Eric fame, started Beefsteak three years ago as an homage to the century-old New York steak fundraising dinners, where many men ate beef with their hands and washed it down with pitchers of ale. "It seemed like if you were going to have this much gluttony during the holiday season, there should be a charity component," said Selman. Last year's event raised \$20,000 for the L.A. Food Bank.

In the 21st century version, ladies are allowed, including comedy pros like [Mindy Kaling](#) and [Kristen Schaal](#), and instead of beer, there are hand-crafted cocktails made with liquid nitrogen from mixologist [Julian Cox](#). Chef [Neal Fraser](#), who next year will open Redbird in Vibiana's rectory, served up appetizers like Thai lobster soup and skewered chicken hearts before the action moved to the long tables inside the vast former cathedral where a jazz band was playing. There, platters of sliced steak, pork chops, lamb chops and even a whole salmon arrived with roasted potatoes and baby broccoli — all eaten with the fingers.

(Pictured: [Matt Selman](#) and [John C. Reilly](#))FILED UNDER: [Jimmy Kimmel](#), [Matt Selman](#), [Mindy Kaling](#)