

Peer Pleasure

Poured (and taped) into their A-list best, and never more eager to schmooze, Hollywood's finest turn out to rub bare shoulders at the Screen Actors Guild Awards

After the hullabaloo over Jennifer Lopez's can-you-top-this? Grammy dress, *Frasier*'s Jane Leeves promptly disclosed how she kept her own Yves Saint Laurent, er, blouse on at the March 12 Screen Actors Guild Awards in L.A.'s Shrine Auditorium. "It's stapled to me," she teased. "No, it's double-sided tape."

The stars at the sixth annual ceremony, in which TV and film actors honor top performances, were eager to suffer for fashion. "I can't breathe," wheezed best actress nominee and *Boys Don't Cry* star Hilary Swank, squeezed into a Randolph Duke gown. "Beauty is pain." Likewise, *Ally McBeal*'s Jane Krakowski, shoehorned into a sheer Pamela Dennis dress, confessed, "I was dizzy from loss of oxygen." Respiratory problems aside, invi-

tees spent lots of time dolling up. *NYPD Blue*'s Andrea Thompson took hours morphing from "sweats and Don King hair" into an Amsale gown and styled locks. But *Ally*'s Portia de Rossi may have used King as inspiration, noting that after four hours she looked "like I stuck my finger in a socket." After the show (*American Beauty* and *The Sopranos* were winners), 800 guests milled at a party sponsored in part by PEOPLE and the Entertainment Industry Foundation. And one reveler admitted to putting no effort into her outfit: "My momma picked it out," said *Everybody Loves Raymond*'s Madylin Sweeten, 8, of her Morgane Le Fay dress. "I feel like a teenager!"

- Dan Jewel
- Steven Cojocar and Kelly Carter in Los Angeles



"I get excited when I see Meryl Streep—who doesn't?" said Sarah Jessica Parker. At the postshow party, presenter Gwyneth Paltrow (left, in a Calvin Klein gown) and Carrie Fisher (right) stayed calm while chatting up the best actress nominee (for *Music of the Heart*).

PHOTO LEFT: STEVE GRANITZ/RETNA; RIGHT: STEVE GRANITZ/RETNA