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## Solange Knowles: Beyonce Knows Baby's Gender

**By Barbara Chai**



*Beyonce (left) and Solange Knowles at New York Fashion Week.*

Solange Knowles says she's a proud auntie already, even though Beyonce and Jay-Z's baby hasn't arrived yet. And they know the baby's gender and have started thinking of names.

At a New York Fashion Week party at Denise Rich's penthouse overlooking Central Park, Solange said she's known about Beyonce's pregnancy for awhile. "I certainly didn't find out the way you guys did," she said, referring to Beyonce's proud baby-bump display at the MTV Video Music Awards last month.

Solange – dressed in a yellow Thakoon dress and Fendi shoes — said the couple already knows the baby's gender, and has been choosing a name, but both are being kept under wraps for now. Solange, herself a mother, just relocated to Carroll Gardens, Brooklyn, from Los Angeles, and sent her son to first

grade this past week. She's also working on a new record.

The party was hosted by Jade Jagger and Denise Rich and included a short auction of items donated by Jagger – an enormous bottle of Bordeaux and a diamond necklace designed by Jagger – to raise funds for Gabrielle's Angel Foundation. The foundation was started by Rich after her daughter, Gabrielle, died in 1996 at the age of 27 from leukemia. Rich holds regular fundraising parties for the foundation, which has awarded more than \$16 million to date in grants for medical research. This year's Angel Ball, one of the foundation's largest events, will take place on Oct. 17 at Cipriani Wall Street, and will honor Naomi Campbell, Dr. Khalid Bin Jabor Al-Thani (founder of The Qatar National Cancer Society), artist Romero Britto, and Vladislav Doronin (founder of The Capital Group). Patti LaBelle and Javier Colon (winner of "The Voice") will perform.



“My daughter, she was an Oxford graduate, she was an actress,” Rich, a songwriter in addition to a philanthropist, said. “Had she lived, she said to me this would be her life’s work. So she helps me from the other side. She was about the joy of life.”

Guests mingled in Rich’s triplex apartment, enjoying the view of Central Park as well as the original Chagall and Picasso paintings on the walls. There were waiters serving “margarita shots” and dessert spreads from Magnolia Bakery. Many guests arrived from Fashion Week and some were in 1970s costume. One guest danced so hard to the live DJ’s beats that his pants split up the middle and he promptly wrapped a very expensive towel around his waist.

Singer Natalie Cole lounged on one of the white sofas in a dazzling black cocktail dress. “I pretty much support Denise in everything,” she said of her friend of 20 years. “Sometimes I tell her, slow down. But that’s just her. The truth is, she gets back in return so much love, support and help. She’s just so genuine. Denise had black hair when I met her, that’s how long it’s been!”

*Photos of Denise Rich and Beyonce & Solange Knowles courtesy of Getty*