

[home](#)[news](#)[viewpoint](#)[local life](#)

local feature

• [nite life](#)

out in ny

[arts](#)[sound off](#)[email updates](#)

New to email updates? Then click [here](#) to find out more.

email address

- subscribe
 unsubscribe

I have read and agree to our [terms and conditions](#).

[advertising general info](#)
[e-tearsheets](#)
[marketing](#)
[ad listings](#)
[about us](#)
[about us](#)
[masthead](#)
[employment](#)

NITE LIFE

Rauhofer's Roxy rampage; Black Party lowdown

'Let me tell you something, honey, if you want drama, you came to the right place, because I'll give it to you.' And he did. But the Black Party looks to spotlight new DJs.

By [Matt Kalkhoff](#)
 Friday, February 25, 2005

Nothing kills the peak hour vibe at a raging dance party quite like abruptly shutting off the music and raising the house lights. Yet that's exactly what happened this past weekend at the Roxy shortly after resident DJ Peter Rauhofer took over the decks from DJ Merritt around 2 a.m.

He seemed to be off to a good start, but then suddenly the music cut out. After nearly 10 minutes of precious Phazon deprivation, the house lights flashed on and then off again almost as quickly as Rauhofer bolted out of the booth and out the back door. To say he looked displeased would be an understatement.

Then a voice — presumably that of promoter John Blair or manager Jason McCarthy — pierced the buzz-inhibiting silence with an announcement that Rauhofer was having “a bit of a diva moment” and had left the building. Merritt would be spinning the remainder of the party.

Rumors since have run rampant. Yet it was anyone's guess as to what could have prompted such a dramatic departure. Luckily Merritt was already warmed up and quickly got the house rocking again and the boys back into their grooves for a holiday weekend, while Mitch Amtrak resumed his signature strobe-heavy assault over the dance floor.

According to Blair the following day, when Rauhofer arrived at the club around 1:30 a.m., he rushed into the club's office to confront Blair and others about various gripes. Then he went up to the booth, promptly shut off the music and brought the house lights up.

Blair said he was baffled by Rauhofer's outburst, but now believes it was prompted by news that Junior Vasquez had been booked by Blair to play a couple future Saturday nights at the club. Vasquez's schedule, posted at

www.juniorvasquezmusic.com, confirms that he will be spinning at Roxy on April 16 and May 21, in addition to gigs at Spirit and the GLAAD Media Awards.

Rauhofer was unavailable for comment as of press time, but all future dates for his long-standing bimonthly residency at Roxy have been removed from his Web site (www.peterrauhofer.com).

Those lyrics above? They're from Rauhofer's 1997 camp classic “Drama,” a song he wrote with Vasquez in mind and recorded with Kim Cooper under the moniker Club 69, with remixes by none other than Vasquez himself. Sometimes, it just can't get more ironic.



They were packed into Crobar for a President's Day Tribal gathering. Abel obliged by playing a relentlessly percussive beat for the thousands of hot men and their admirers at another Alegria extravaganza. The next Alegria will follow the Black Party in less than a month, so you'd better hit the gym!

Contact **Matt Kalkhoff** at Matt@mattunleashed.com

[Sound Off about this article](#)

[Printer-friendly Version](#)

[E-Mail this story](#)

[Search the Blade](#)

[Bitch Session](#)

advertisement

In related news, Rauhofer's long-awaited "Live @ Roxy 4" compilation CD is set to be released shortly. The www.star69records.com site has track listing and other news.

Black Party cometh, and this year's event has already stirred up lots of controversy, the good kind! With three hetero DJs headlining the event — Victor Calderone, who will also be celebrating his birthday, and Iberian production duo Chus & Ceballos — and the requisite provocatively homoerotic theme (Lucha Libre, "the renowned Latin sport of wrestling in which masked athletes compete as anonymous S&M warriors"), people are talking.

The Saint At Large has always transcended conventional publicity campaigns. Even with the unfortunate elimination of its erotically charged poster invite that was mailed annually to tens of thousands of revelers, the arrival of the carnal celebration and its suggestive marketing still elicits speculation and scrutiny among the party faithful and newcomers alike.

Always trendsetting, sometimes disturbing and far from innocent, the Saint At Large provides a 16-hour-plus marathon of leather-infused dance and decadence on the grandest of scales, and almost always lives up to the hype. This is no small feat considering the organization is celebrating the 25th anniversary of its signature event this year. (The White Party, traditionally held Presidents Day Weekend, was replaced this year by a gorgeous New Year's Day event at Capitale Ballroom.)

Lighting designer extraordinaire Guy Smith will be joined by his equally talented colleague Ross Berger. Smith promises not only the customary breathtaking visual displays from above, but also a bold and highly visible reminder of the sexual responsibility we all face in these increasingly perilous times.

He refrained from revealing any more details, but the grin on his face suggested that it must be something outrageous, even by Black Party standards. Perhaps Smith himself will be participating in a demonstration?

Chus & Ceballos reportedly stole the show at Montreal's Black & Blue party in October. The duo will play from 10 p.m. until around 4:30 a.m.

Calderone will spin his signature deep and sexy grooves (and I hope some of his favorite classics and vocals as the morning progresses) until around 11 a.m. Lest attendees with "lighter" tastes in music feel neglected, Circuit favorite Randy Bettis will be spinning the final hours of the party, ensuring a gentle landing just in time for departing guests to shock unsuspecting tourists attending matinees throughout Times Square.

Fetish performers, porn stars and local strippers are being recruited as we speak by a consortium of flesh peddlers including Dean Johnson, Jonny McGovern and Marc Berkley.

Tickets, which often sell out early, are \$95 and are available at www.saintatlarge.com. Check out www.victorcalderone.com, www.stereo-productions.com and www.betboyz.com for more info on the DJs.

After headlining last year's Black Party, DJ Susan Morabito will be reviving her former Sunday night event celebrating the Vernal Equinox on March 20 at Vue. Fans who prefer earlier, tea dance-like hours can look forward to hearing "Saint and Equinox classics mixed with some current uplifting selections" between 6 p.m. and 2 a.m., when Morabito teams up with Love Parade Productions to play the next Souvenirs-Flashback-Fast Forward party, visuals courtesy of Marsha Stern.

Advance tickets are \$20 and can be purchased at Wear Me Out (353 W. 47th St., 212-333-3047), Universal Gear (140 Eighth Ave., 212-206-9119) or online at www.loveparadeproductions.com.

Ric Sena is also throwing his Midas touch into the post-Black Party frenzy with his own Sunday night offering, the fifth edition of his intensely wild Alegria Xtreme party at Crobar. DJ Abel will work the main floor while Alyson Calagna adds a welcome infusion of estrogen for a change of pace in the Prop Room.

Steve Revlon provides visual stimulation and illumination. Advance tickets are \$60 until March 4, and may be purchased at Wear Me Out and Revision (265-A W. 19th St.) or online at www.alegriaevents.com.

If you're looking for a Black Party alternative, or perhaps just a pre-party pit stop, DJ Tony Moran will be spinning at Roxy on Saturday night. Most every bar and club in town will offer something special that weekend, so watch this space for forthcoming details of the many exhaustive and naughty options.

Despite the bitter cold temps and nearly 14 inches of snow on the ground back in late January, I wouldn't have dared to miss Billy Carroll's Classics Tea Dance on Sunday evening at Splash.

Ms. Carroll served up the fiercest, most fun collection of classic tunes I could have hoped to hear, including "Can't Get Enough of Your Love," "Everything," "Dreamer," "One by One," "So Emotional," "Finally," "Melody of Love" and many, many more.

I was only planning to stay for a couple hours (famous last words!), but somehow ended up dancing well past midnight (the party started at 6 p.m.). Thanks for a really great night out, Billy. I'm just sorry I have to miss the next one on Sunday, March 6. Winter Party calls; I'm answering.

Promoters Jeff Kagan and Bobby McGuire recently debuted their first collaborative party effort called "Shaken, Not Stirred." This welcome respite from 120 bpms offers live jazz and 2-for-1 martinis from 9 to 1 a.m. on Thursday nights at Marco New York on West 10th Street in the Village.

The first event drew a respectable crowd, but let's hope they add another bartender and find a way to facilitate a better flow through this narrow lounge-restaurant. But what a great, long-overdue idea this is. Good luck guys. And it's great to see the couple that own the restaurant again — they're Fire Island Pines stalwarts.

I'm embarrassed to admit this, but an immensely fun party has somehow managed to slip under my radar for the past several months. Prompted by a friend's recommendation following Martin Luther King weekend, I decided to swing by Hiro at the Maritime Hotel in West Chelsea on Sunday evening of President's Day Weekend for what was described as "the most successful fusion of East Village and Chelsea that has yet been attempted."

Drinks are a bit pricey at \$10, but the lack of a cover charge helps mitigate the fiscal damage. It's crazy that we seem to have far more party options on Sunday nights than Saturdays, but heck, this is probably the hottest soirée out there right now. So act fast and enjoy the extra cute, extra packed crowd. Just be sure to get there extra early or you'll wait extra long for coat check.

Until next time: Be Smart. Be Safe. Be Yourself.

[New York Nightlife](#)

Nightlife, Guest Lists, Photo Album
Dating, Forums, Reviews, Birthdays

[New York City Clubs](#)

Reduced cover/open bar at NYC clubs
Get on the velvet list

[national](#) | [local](#) | [world](#) | [health](#) | [letters](#) | [viewpoint](#) | [arts](#) | [classifieds](#) | [real estate](#) | [about us](#)

© 2005 | A Unite Media Publication | [Privacy Policy](#)