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FRIDAY, AUGUST 12, 2005

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NITE LIFE

DJs in spin cycle

Whats hot around town...

By [Matt Kalkhoff](#)

Friday, August 12, 2005

There may not be as many gay folks left in the city on summer weekends, but that doesn't necessarily mean there's nothing going on in Clubland. Take the weekend of July 22 for example.

On Friday, Susan Morabito blew out her birthday candles a few weeks early from inside the DJ booth at Splash. Victor Calderone's monthly "Evolve" party happened at Crobar on Saturday, with That Kid Chris, no less, spinning before him.

On that same night, Jonathan Peters made his Roxy debut. Did the superstar DJ actually come out in Next or were his quotes just purposely ambiguous?

Tom "Superchumbo" Stephan made an all-too-rare local appearance on Sunday at Asseteria to promote his debut artist album "WowieZowie," which features vocals by Samantha Fox, the Pet Shop Boys' Neil Tennent, Celeda and others). And over at Avalon, Chad Jack played the club's final gay Sunday night party.

Contrary to rumors, Avalon will remain open, but will eventually be revamped into a live music venue. But John Blair has indeed left the building and has taken his executive management team with him over to Spirit, where he will preside over the club's management and promotions as executive director.

It appears Blair will remain at Roxy, at least for now. Mark Nelson was also brought in recently to host the weekly party and help promote it.

As for Spirit, I expect we'll see other surprises down the pike, but the only thing that's certain at the moment is that Peter Rauhofer's and Junior Vasquez's alternating Saturday night gigs there are history. Vasquez is now planning to celebrate his birthday at Roxy on Aug. 27; both DJs have upcoming gigs on Fire Island.

Speaking of displaced DJs, Susan Morabito, Carlos Pedraza and Jody Lirette evidently do not represent the "direction" in which the owners of the Pavilion and Blue Whale see the Fire Island's nightlife heading. So Eric Von Kuersteiner fired all of them from their remaining (advertised) gigs for the season. Shaking things up even further, fellow Blade columnist and party promoter Daniel Nardicio has pulled the plug on his Friday night bacchanal at the Pavilion.

Back on the isle of Manhattan, one of the most reliably fun parties of the summer will take place this weekend. On Sunday, Aug. 14, Don Turner returns to Pier 63 to throw "Soakin Wet 5" from 2 until 10



Former N.J. Gov. **Jim McGreevey** attended the Lambda Legal benefit in the Pines on Saturday, July 23, with Lambda Executive Director **Kevin Cathcart** (middle) and **Dan Cochran**. The Fire Island News reported that McGreevey was a houseguest of Jeffrey Zirpolo. (Photo by Tony LaRocco)

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

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p.m. DJs David Knapp and Rob Harris will make sure everyone works up a sweat on the dance floor at this annual outdoor event. Admission includes a copy of Knapp's latest compilation CD from Centaur Music, "Party Groove: Soakin Wet Vol. 2." Visit www.centaurmusic.com for last-minute ticket info.

Two other essential outdoor dance parties in Central Park later this summer will have straight and gay dancers grooving to Paul van Dyk's annual gig on Saturday, Aug. 20, followed by the first-ever Ultra Music Festival on Friday, Sept. 16.

Modeled on the enormously successful Winter Music Conference event in Miami, Ultra will feature several stages with such musical talent as The Chemical Brothers, Paul Oakenfold, Timo Maas, Erick Morillo and Danny Tenaglia. Check out www.madeevents.com and www.ultranewyork.com for more info.

In other Erick Morillo news, the world-famous spinner has reportedly teamed up with the owners of Discoteque and others to re-open the old Sound Factory space on West 46th Street. The club will be called Pacha. No word yet when exactly it will open or if it's affiliated with the famous Ibiza club of the same name.

You've probably heard by now that Madonna's new album (due out sometime this Fall) is going to be called "Confessions on a Dance Floor," and, according to her publicist Liz Rosenberg, will be "a total dance record" with "no ballads, no messages." So why not celebrate the queen of the dance floor's 47th birthday at what promises to be one of the gayest parties ever held at B.B. King Blues Club & Grill?

The "Madonnathon" will engulf the Times Square venue on Monday, August 15, beginning at 6:00pm. Tickets are only \$12 in advance and can be purchased online at www.bbkingblues.com.

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