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## NITE LIFE

### Party pilgrimage

Give thanks: There's a cornucopia of clubland options in the week counting down to Turkey Day

By [Matt Kalkhoff](#)  
Friday, November 18, 2005

Sometimes it's nice to kick off the weekend in a relaxing, low key manner. This past Friday night, however, was anything but tame. Starting innocently enough with a free-flowing procession of \$4 Cosmos at Posh's happy hour, the party continued at Crobar, where a packed house celebrated MetroSource magazine's 15-year anniversary.

Working the grooves with a diverse yet edgy mix of music was soon-to-be-world-famous DJ Kevin Graves who had all manner of revelers bopping on the packed dance floor. I had hoped to stick around to hear Pete Tong spin, but once the open bar closed (without warning!) and the regular house prices kicked in, I decided to take my liver elsewhere.

Still a tad thirsty, I headed over to Splash, where DJ Susan Morabito was serenading the masses with a spot-on set. Continually building on an already impressive momentum, the beats just didn't let up. At a time when far too many DJs are enslaved by those annoying drop outs that seemingly every record thinks it needs to have, Morabito commendably allows only a few well-placed breaks in the music to make her point, often mixing right over such nonsense. Drop outs belong in a G.E.D. program, not on the dance floor, OK?

If you've never seen Joan Rivers perform live, here's your chance to catch the fashion-conscious comedienne at the Cutting Room in Chelsea. More than 112 years later, this legendary performer is still offending audiences with one of the most outrageous, politically-incorrect stand-up routines imaginable. And I love her for it! If this show is even half as funny as the one I saw a few years ago at Fez, we're in for a treat.

Tickets are a reasonable \$25, and part of the proceeds benefit her favorite charities, God's Love We Deliver and Guide Dogs for the Blind. She's only performing Wednesday nights through Dec. 21, though, so hurry up for tickets.

Following her show on Nov. 23, I'll likely be spending the remaining hours of Thanksgiving Eve at Roxy with DJ Junior Vasquez and a few thousand other party pilgrims. Think of it as a preemptive strike on the many calories we'll all no doubt be



Goddess bless **SUSAN MORABITO**, who knows better than to leave dead spots in her DJ sets.

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consuming the next day, or just a good excuse to get out and dance. After the turkey coma subsides, head back to Splash on Friday where DJ Billy Carroll will be serving up his very own special blend of guilt-free desserts and assorted aural delights.

Another party that caught my attention recently is Touch at Serena on Monday nights. According to special correspondent Joe Caro, the Philadelphia-based DJ/party-hopper who heroically bears the burden of "single-handedly keeping New York nightlife alive" during his frequent weekend visits here, it's just like the West Side Club, only with cocktails and professional masseurs.

I'm sure I don't know what that means, but it certainly sounds intriguing. The Web site (massageparty.info) describes it as a "beautiful healthy sensual massage party" where voyeurs, fetishists and other curious thrill-seekers apparently indulge their fantasies in a playful environment. Considering the hallowed history of the Chelsea Hotel, this sounds right for its basement lounge.

History is also being made over on W. 28th Street, where Crobar's reign as the king of clubland continues Nov. 19 with Manhattan's most popular monthly event, Victor Calderone's Evolve. Technically an all-day after-hours event beginning at 5 a.m., with critical gay mass generally achieved sometime between 8 and 9 a.m., this is really two (or even three) parties in one. Joining the roster of superstar DJs who have "opened" for Calderone this week are the incomparable Chus & Ceballos.

Considering that the doors at the last party were closed at 3 a.m. during Carl Cox's set and not reopened until around 5 a.m. due to severe overcrowding, I'd suggest either a very early or very late arrival. Until next time: Be smart. Be safe. Be yourself.

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