



BEST PARTY



BOSSA:NOVA

JASON BENTLEY, DJ JUN, ALLEN VOSKANIAN

Bossa:nova isn't just a night, it's a brand, a magnet, and a way of life. Founders Jason Bentley and Bruno Guez had stellar radio shows and prime A&R gigs prior, bringing an adoring audience and gilded ears to the first of many clubs that would house their mix of funky house, nu-jazz breaks, exotica, and beyond. The night was to be a promotions device for their label, the much-lauded Quango Records, but soon grew beyond. Consistently long queues brought the Bossa:nova team to the attention of Hollywood, making them prime picks for celebrity after-parties and event production for large, mostly European touring artists. The night also gained a reputation for breaking some of the best new artists on the American dance scene. Now in its eighth year, Bossa:Nova has added local DJs Allen Voskanian and DJ Jun, spinning high energy sets to an eclectic, no frills crowd in its newest local, "Best Lounge" nominee Zanzibar. The North African-themed space has proved to be the best home yet for the team. —DC



DUB MISSION LIPP SERVICE

Dub is all about deep listening, and DJ Sep Ghadishah has spent seven years making San Francisco the prime place for bass transmissions. Her Sunday Dub Mission party began with a whisper, leading the radio DJ and promoter to throw full swing into making her thing happen. Today, crowds come to chill and stay to party at capacity, following Sep and her cadre of DJs through their mixes of past and present international dub, reggae, and dancehall. Dub Mission, like any great night, has taken on a life beyond the floor and spawned live appearances by luminaries like Mad Professor, Adrian Sherwood, and Twilight Circus Dub Sound System, as well as scene-defining comps like *Babylon Is Ours: The USA in Dub (Select Cuts)*. Eclectic sound and a chill atmosphere keep Dub Mission's crowd diverse and devoted, turning on old and new alike to something great trolled from Sep's endless quest for the best. —DC



GIANT

In January 2000, Dave Dean took the Los Angeles party scene by storm with Giant, an award-winning and leading club brand in America and abroad. He didn't invent the DJ-superstar, but he opened LA's eyes to him. Routinely presenting top DJs and artists like Carl Cox, Steve Lawler, Pete Tong, Deep Dish, and Danny Howells, Giant's music policy is deep, tribal, and progressive. And beyond Los Angeles, Giant produces events in Europe, Japan, Miami, and Las Vegas. Strongly centered in club production and DJ culture, Giant develops online multimedia programs, publishes compilation CDs and DVDs, and markets travel packages to accompany their global endeavors. And at their new home, Saturdays at Avalon Hollywood, the tradition continues with a sophisticated and house-driven crowd. In a sea of wayward West Coast trance parties, Giant towers above the rest. —LG



GLOW

PANORAMA PRODUCTIONS

For four years, Glow has been the definitive trance and techno party in Washington, D.C. Every Saturday night, resident DJ/music director/promoter Pete Moutso brings 2,000 revelers resident DJs that include Armin van Buuren, Ferry Corsten, and George Acosta, and special guests like Tiesto, Paul van Dyk, and Judge Jules. Two years ago Glow grew out of its initial venue and moved to Insomnia, where they brought in an EAW speaker system and their own collapsible DJ booth which, according to Moutso, enhances the DJ-to-crowd interaction. And there's even talk now that Insomnia might not be able to hold all of Glow's faithful followers. So what's their secret? "Our crowd is very open," says Moutso. "You can have some progressive guys, like Deep Dish or James Holden, and you can have the epic guys like George Acosta and Paul Van Dyk, and the crowd goes just as crazy." That crowd, which ranges from college kids to industry after-hours-seekers, has made this capital city party a mainstream success. —LG