

3D World 24/8/98

sushi ★★★★★★

DISCO KITCHEN @ CITY HOTEL!

REVIEWED BY ALEXIS CARRINGTON

Rumours I had heard from the first Disco Kitchen had somewhat intimidated me. I made my wardrobe choices carefully. I finally settled on a full-length red ballgown with a touch of gold thread through it. Would it be too over the top? I was greeted at the door by a musclebound doorman waving a sparkler. So far, so good. I was ushered in to be met by a six-foot tall drag queen by the name of Foxxxy who gave me my Ballerina Barbie stamp. The interior of Disco Kitchen is perfectly kitsch, and the organisers have obviously gone to great lengths to de-pubify the City Hotel, from the cheesy visuals in the main room to the crayons and paper tablecloths in the chillout. The lighting effects were straight out of Boogie Nights. John McLean wheeled out some classic-sounding epics and newcomer Christophunk played the sort of funky stuff which people had come for, and Simon Caldwell has obviously enjoyed his recent leave, playing not just happy girlie disco, but deep, dark acid-ridden tracks. The highlight of the evening was Artificial's live PA. This was one of the most impressive live acts to be let loose on an unsuspecting dancefloor in a long time. Artificial is the real thing. This was not just a performer with a DAT. Artificial provided every tweak and bleep herself and kept the dancefloor screaming for more. The crowd were obviously enjoying themselves (and each other), although I thought more people would have made the effort to glam up. A bizarre cross-section they were too, but they kept the dancefloor packed until nearly 7am. Definitely a little bit different from your average house night, but from the reaction of the crowd I'd say a very welcome change. Hmm... now all I have to do is work out what on earth I'm going to wear for the next one.

BEEN THERE DONE THAT

SOUNDS OF SEDUCTION