



BOÎTE

BOÎTE; Haiti Meets the Runway

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IS it possible to have a trendy, celebrity-packed nightclub that isn't tacky? PM, a new lounge in the meatpacking district in the West Village, seems to have accomplished it. The space, beautifully designed by Robert McKinley, who has worked in the creative departments at Giorgio Armani and Donna Karan, is modeled after gentlemen's clubs in Haiti built in the 1940's. (Three of PM's owners, Kyky, Unik and Dimitri, go by one name and were born in Haiti; the fourth, Adam Hock, is a Westchester native.)

A small converted warehouse that most recently housed an Italian restaurant, Chinghalle, it feels like Haiti, tropical and raw, tricked out for a New York City runway. Two large photographic murals hang on the distressed brick walls, and lush palm trees and Caribbean-style concrete blocks line the room.


On opening night on a recent Saturday, celebrities and models showed up in force for the after-party for the Brazilian swimwear designer Rosa Cha, cramming into leather booths designed so guests can slide out easily for maximum table-hopping.

Venus Williams was there sipping Champagne, and in the next booth was Pharrell Williams, the model-chasing half of the Neptunes, entertaining an entourage of women. Naomi Campbell, wearing a zebra-print minidress, vamped around.


"It's sensual, like the Caribbean," Ms. Campbell said, smiling for photographers and television cameras. "Kyky and Unik are amazing."

Kyky and Unik have been promoting A-list parties in downtown Manhattan for the last nine years.

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