



Micha Klein Rocks Miami

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Imagination is the only limit to the electronic world. Music digitally altered beyond human ears, images enhanced beyond mortal eyes, and dreams augmented with cosmic perception. Almost a cult, its fans are feverish with the spirit of innovation. DJ's are hailed as intergalactic gods, blessed with the superhuman ability to perfect the trance domain.

An entire alternative society fueled by the positive focus of their music, and pushes the envelope of social evolution toward a vision of brighter future. With clubs for cathedrals manned by DJ-dieties, the majority lose sight of the many other facets of electronic culture.

There are videos and flyers for art, magazines for literature, promoters for politicians--a burgeoning humanities substrata waiting to explode.

The leading visual artist is Micha Klein. Pioneering graphic design, digital art and performance art, his unique computer-based creations stretch beyond the limits of the postmodern. From flyers to CD covers to live VJ shows to installations to

free standing pieces, Klein synthesizes contemporary pop art motifs with traditional art conventions in strikingly innovative compositions.

In a time when very few graphic artists were taken seriously, Klein persevered with his electronic visions. The recent increase in critical acclaim can be attributed both to his dedication and talent, and also to the ever-expanding base of electronic culture.

With more fans, more clubs, and more venues, there are more people to see his constructions, more places to see his video work, and more venues to show his artwork. The collective mindset of this audience differs entirely from the proper art world's previous infatuation with sardonic postmodernism. Klein's paradigm mirrors the rapidly multiplying techno-culture's association with delivering a new positivism to cynicism run rampant.

Drawn from existentialism, new age philosophies and ground-breaking technology, Klein's message stresses the seminal age of optimism seething currently in Europe. Klein's work appears in auspicious places as beacons of hope sent out to the next generation.

He even personifies the artist-clubber--he was born in the international Dionysian capital Amsterdam. With spiky blonde hair, fierce tattoos, birth in Amsterdam, and allusions to drugs and sex, Klein exudes exactly the same kind of sublime, yet subversive futuristic aura as his art.

Every hyper-trendy person dreams of mastering his precocious grasp of tomorrow's most groovy vibe. For example, strong women frequently occur in his images. He explains that the "next millennium belongs to women" and that he portrays women as the "strong and self-confident" human beings that they are today. Indeed, his females exemplify sexually comfortable, physically powerful, spiritually and socially independent cyber-divas. Imagine The Matrix's Trinity colorfully redone with in a hedonistic, completely dissipated atmosphere!

Trained by the Rietveld Academy in Amsterdam school, Klein's education grounds him firmly within the art historic continuum. Photographer Man Ray and pop artist Andy Warhol are Klein's primary source of inspiration from the art world. In his view, computers reshape the role of photography in art by making photography more manipulative and constructed in the way paintings are. It no longer merely records images from the natural world, but produces images of the imaginative mind.

His technique is painstakingly intricate, delicate and detailed. Employing a wide range of mediums, Klein creations are totally unique. He notes one installation that presents his ideal afterhours venue by covering the entire room with fur, including big bed, projecting high powered video beams and machines for water-

consumption. Visitors were invited to actually enter and use his created space; and, indeed they did!

Interested? He has had many shows worldwide, including his first retrospective at the Groninger Museum. Shows in London, Milan and New York are on the agenda. If you can't make it out there, you can check him out at Liquid Miami on special occasions, at huge clubs and parties all around the world, and Bed, a new restaurant on South Beach opening this December that doubles as his gallery. If you just can't wait, visit his Internet site at www.nichaklein.com! A full sensory experience awaits to reinvent your mind.