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ON SCREEN MUSIC THE VELVET ROPE LIFESTYLE SIDE DISH OFF THE WALL ON CAMPUS ARCHIVES NIGHT&DAY ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

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STEVE AOKI: Hollywood DJ breaks beats, expectations

On Friday night at [Envy at the Ivy Hotel](#), DJ [Steve Aoki](#) aka [Kid Millionaire](#), brought his sought out sounds to S.D. in the least-expected fashion. Going in, it was assumed this was going to be just another night of [mash-ups](#) and [Daft Punk remixes](#). Regardless of his "[One more Time...](#)" moment of weakness, Aoki's entire set blew the dance floor away.

It is very obvious [this man of many names](#) has a good ear for music: His record label, [Dim Mak Records](#), founded artists like [MSTRKRFT](#) and [Bloc Party](#). Under his production moniker, "[Weird Science](#)" he has remixed with artists like Snoop Dogg and Peaches. And under his own name he has remixed numerous mainstream tracks to fit the house scene. But during his performance at Envy, when he routed his headphones to the PA system to double as a microphone, then used his computer to manipulate the sound of his voice, it became obvious Aoki is also an exceptional sound engineer.

With [Aoki in control](#) of the unrelenting sound system, he brought absolute chaos to Envy with a complex exhibition of metal/hip-hop/trance/house samples and sounds. [Aoki's style](#) is unlike that of other DJs: Whereas most DJs showcase their ability to mix songs, Aoki makes his [set more of a performance](#), with live mixing while still interacting with the crowd.

By juxtaposing artists like Aoki and the dirty techno/house scene with an upscale refinement, Envy is beginning to change the San Diego house music experience. See the evolving scene yourself at upcoming shows at Envy Nightclub with [Designer Drugs](#) this Thursday, with [Mark Farina](#) at Ivy's rooftop pool party on May 31, and with [Hyper Crush](#) on June 5.

Posted by Taylor Doms on May 26, 2009 08:59 AM | [Permalink](#) | [ShareThis](#)

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QUICKLIST

NINA'S PICKS: South Bay Surprises



Even though I grew up in Chula Vista/Bonita, and it's only, like, 10 minutes away from me, I haven't been back to hang out there in a really long time.

But after spending an afternoon there before the No Doubt show, I remembered the reasons why the South Bay has such a warm, fuzzy place in my heart.

1. Lolitas, obviously. (The Telegraph Canyon Road one.)
2. I walked by the closed-down Vogue Theater, where I spent many afternoons watching second-run movies like Superman II, and it had a sign that read "New Vogue" coming soon. Plus, there was an application for a liquor license on the window. What!
3. Chula Vista has its share of great dive bars like Dock's and The Archway Lounge.
4. Not that I'm proud, but many of my nights were spent at the Bonita Denny's. All you south of 94ers know what I'm talking about.
5. Valle Lindo Park off Sequoia. It doesn't have a website or even a Starbucks nearby. But this is where I learned everything from how to ride a bike to how to go iceblocking.

Nina Garin always got stuck inside the bubble jungle gym in Rohr Park. Didn't you?

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