

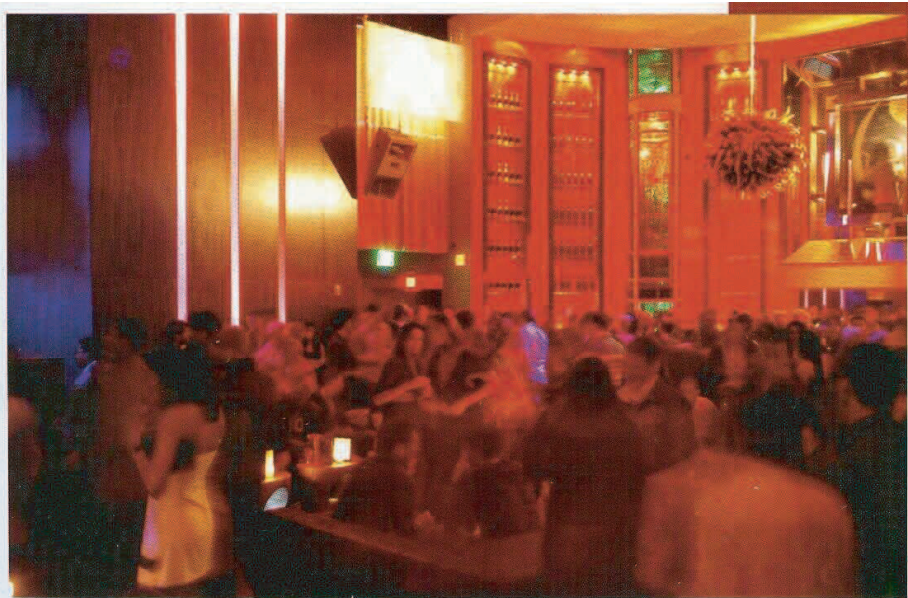


## CIELO, NEW YORK

Probably on more DJs' wish lists than any club regardless of size is house haven Cielo. The old faithful Funktion-One system satisfies even the most critical audiophiles, and the dancefloor possesses a vibe that never seems to let up. Plus, Cielo is forever filling its schedule with the best beat-slingers; from resident legends Louie Vega (nominated this year for Best Resident DJ) and Francois K, to the new wave of European techno talent. Winner of Best Club in 2005 and 2006, as well as numerous other awards, Cielo has a place in the heart of anyone who loves to dance. -

PM

[www.cieloclub.com](http://www.cieloclub.com)



## SET, MIAMI

Aiming to bring back Lincoln Road's era of luxury, the 10,000-square-foot venue Set basks in luxe decor and service, including vacuum-compressed elevators for go-go girls, a backlit tortoise shell bar and a future-themed glass fireplace. (Because nothing screams extravagance as loudly as a fireplace in Miami, a city whose temperature rarely dips below 60 degrees.) Add Pucci fabrics, Swarovski crystals, Cecil B. Demille-inspired Egyptian art including 12-foot-tall Cleopatra statues and (faux) elephant tusks, and you'll wonder if you're in Miami anymore. Plus, as a necessary lounge testament, Britney, Giselle, Kimora and the like have shown their faces in the VIP Trophy Room. -CM

[www.setmiami.com](http://www.setmiami.com)

## VESSEL, SAN FRANCISCO

Cielo co-owner Philippe Rieser has already won our hearts and Best Club Award for two years in a row. So when he and partner Sunwoo Hwang decide to unveil a new lounge in San Francisco's Union Square, best believe we—along with patrons like Leonardo DiCaprio, Salma Hayek and Mayor Gavin Newsom—will be there with Fluevogs on. Designed by Cielo's Stephane Dupoux, this subterranean decor features Italian leather banquettes, teak tables and a Hollywood juniper tree to buttress the interior's warm organic tones. Meanwhile, the 25-speaker Funktion-One sound system keeps the party properly chilled or heated. -JH

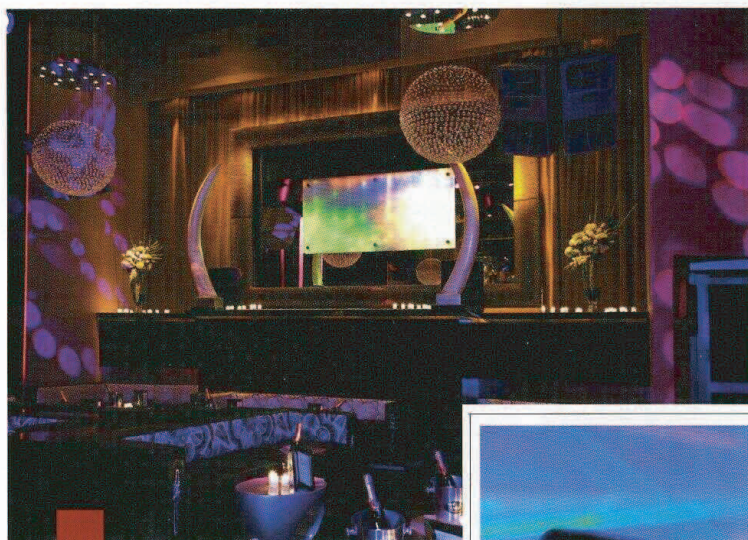
[www.vesselsf.com](http://www.vesselsf.com)





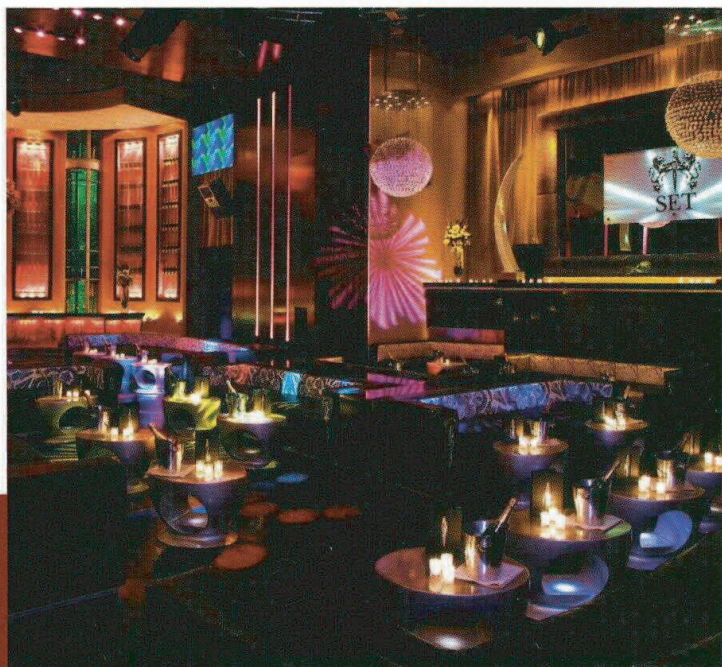
**SMART BAR, CHICAGO**

Coming back into the fray of competition this year as the defending champ, Chicago's Smart Bar has continued to secure the shifting loyalties of Chicago's nightclubbing elite after 25 years in the industry. Music director, talent buyer and erstwhile DJ James Amato has kept the club ahead of the trends with sets and live PAs from Spank Rock, Digitalism and Justice, whose set also scored a nod for Best DJ Set. In the meantime, the Funktion-One sound system and redesigned interior by Thomas Shoner has held up well since the club's ambitious 2006 renovation. Not bad for a basement club. -JH  
[www.smartbarchicago.com](http://www.smartbarchicago.com)



**SOUND INVESTMENT FOR SET, MIAMI**

Building on the success of Mansion's 2005 Club World Award-winning sound system, the Sound Investment team used a similar plan of attack for Opium Group's 10,000-square-foot Set. To accommodate the aesthetic conditions of Set's meticulous design, they used a slew of high-power, low-clutter Funktion-One Resolution 2 speakers with several F-121 and F-218 subs. And to meet the challenge of acoustically unfriendly surfaces, they delayed the speakers with numerous BSS processing channels. MC2 amplifiers power those speakers, as well as the Martin Audio Blackline and JBL boxes on the upper level. -CM  
[www.soundinvestmentav.com](http://www.soundinvestmentav.com)



**SET, MIAMI**

Its debut certainly turned a few heads: After all, Set is a 10,000-square-foot venue run by Opium Group (Mansion, Opium Garden, Privé) and it was opening on Super Bowl Sunday in Miami with a Hollywood theme. With Swarovski crystal chandeliers and baby croc finishes, the interior channels old school Tinseltown glamour. And with plasmas and Plexiglas screens, it evokes a new school approach to showcasing the film set results. Tapping the celeb ring to create a buzz in its first year, Set markets toward the beautiful people, but also takes care of the music fans booking DJs like Pete Tong, Paul Oakenfold and Bob Sinclair to rock its Funktion-One sound system. -CM  
[www.setmiami.com](http://www.setmiami.com)