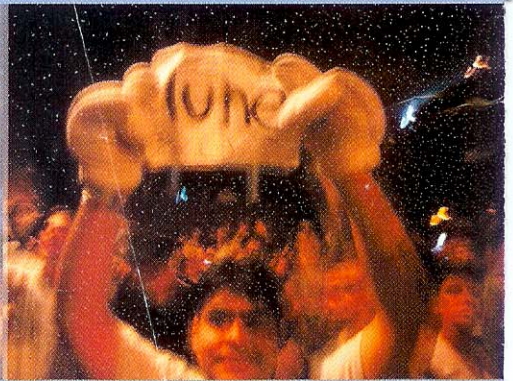


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New Years Day Stompy Dig-In December 31st, 1999 Lahaina, Maui

When I set out from San Francisco to spend my millennium celebration on the island of Maui, my expectations for both my time there and the "New Years Day Stompy Dig-In" were very high. Amazingly, both the weather and the festivities far exceeded my expectations. Despite rumors that the event would be a pricey extravaganza in the ballroom of an abandoned golf course, the Stompy stompers really came through with the soul by choosing to hold the free gathering in a beachside park just north of Lahaina on the West coast of the island. From the moment of arrival at the location, I was reminded of Point Molate, the Bayside home of many a good ol' Sunset party. There were blankets on the ground, fresh flowers lovingly placed about the surfside dancefloor, and a rainbow of sparkly SF groovers, curious tourists, and purely local natives who all added large portions of flavor and magic to the tropical celebration. The music (provided by the always-on Preston, Scottie Soul, and the extra-especial Tres Manos) was that deeply-juicy, sometimes minimal, but always yummy house that Stompy has remained known for. And the mood...we were all in heaven and we knew it. There was even a couple of inspired San Franciscan haole who dropped their clothes in their excitement and paddled out to sea for an unforgettablely entertaining surf au natural in the foreground of the first sunset of the 2000s. Stompy really came through with this tropical shindig, proving their commitment to the spirit of house music and their ongoing efforts to bring that little happy place

on the inside...to the outside (750 of starlight and a deep, smooth groove). -Travis Liggett

Phuture Hawaii 2000 December 31st, 1999 Honolulu, Hawaii.

As soon as I got my hands on an advance copy of the "Phuture Hawaii 2000" program, I knew this party had endless potential to be a trendsetter and landmark in American dance culture. The first page has a letter from Hawaii's governor, Ben Cayetano, endorsing the event and taking pride in the international exposure this event was bringing to the most tropical state of the union. The party was still days away, and I was already excited (how often do we see politicians, much less governors, on OUR side?), but the best part (aka Carl Cox) was still to come.

The nights before the show, my crew and I spent a bit of time with the main promoter in Hawaii and of Phuture Hawaii 2000, G-Spot (G is short for Greg, and Spot was a name his sisters gave him in middle school). He was aware of what a great step this event was for the state of Hawaii, and how it would blow up the intimate island scene he had helped foster. What stood out most about G however, was his organization and calm before this potential dance storm!

But finally, the main event: it was seventy degrees, a waterfront park, rolling green hills, four amazing stages, and did I mention, FREE ADMISSION! This amazing event was the main attraction for anyone under thirty on the islands. This did not exclude families with barbecues and fireworks, or tuxedo-wearing formal folks, all want-

ing to dance under the stars. This party provided an opportunity for the rest of America to get a good chance to see what our dance community is truly about. As G later said to me, "I want people who will never go to another rave to say, 'I went to Phuture Hawaii 2000 and it was a great time, with a great vibe.' Then we will truly be understood by mainstream America."

G-Spot began an astonishing hard house set around 10:30. He got the main stage filled with people, and raised the anticipation for Carl just a couple of more notches. By the time Carl got on stage, the crowds were bouncing to every bass drop and break and the energy was still climbing. As Carl Cox prepared to ring this island into the new millennium, thousands of people filled the beachfront valley of the main stage to get a peek at the number one DJ in the world. His remarkable fingers and never-ending smile took hold of the crowd with the most amazing two hours of house this writer has ever experienced. The music cut with the final 10 second countdown, and then Cox dropped his own track, "Phuture 2000," as the first song of the millennium to the accompany the professional fireworks show above us. It was perfect, to say the least.

All the DJs and organizers of this extraordinary event did an amazing job, and the large number of dancers still around at 6 am showed it. I, like thousands of others, was glad to have danced into the new millennium in paradise, and I thank all those involved for providing the ideal party. Mahalo, Aloha, and Happy New Year! -Chris Yuen