

British DJ Dave Ralph to play at Club 111

Turntablist has been cranking up the beat for 23 years

By Derek Paiva

ADVERTISER ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

Add progressive trance and house DJ Dave Ralph to the short list of honest-to-God veteran turntablists — Cheb i Sabbah, John Selway — who've spun in Honolulu recently.

Ralph throws down his noted melodic mixing style tomorrow night at Club 111 with offshore DJs Empress, Diamond and a sweet lineup of local turntablists. The event marks the final party for the Chinatown club whose summerlong lease has expired and will not be renewed.

The 40-year-old Ralph launched his career while still a teenager, working mobile DJ gigs at birthday parties and weddings in his native Liverpool, England. Driving trucks by day and spinning oldies and R&B in

pubs at night was enough for Ralph until he heard his first house record in 1986. He quit both jobs soon after to spin house full-time in British clubs



RALPH

that were beginning to take a chance on the music.

Ralph quickly built his reputation on the British rave scene before moving to the sunny DJ playground of Ibiza, off the coast of Spain, in 1989.

He remained there

for a decade before moving to Miami's own potent DJ scene. Ralph has lived in slightly more sedentary Plymouth, Mass., since 2000.

A full 23 years into his career, Ralph still maintains residencies in clubs in Chicago, Philadelphia, Washington, D.C., Detroit and Boston. He has toured with contemporaries such as Paul Oakenfeld and BT, and spun for thousands of revelers at Woodstock '99's famously crazed overnight raves. These days, Ralph is as hellbent on maintaining a sensible home life

DJ Dave Ralph

with DJs Empress and Diamond, G-Spot, Daniel J, IKON, PSI, Mizota, Big Daddy Dave and more

10 p.m. Saturday

Club 111, 111 N. King St., second floor

\$10-\$20

591-3500

with his wife as he is recording his first album of all-original material.

"I want to do a project album, sort of like what the Alan Parsons Project used to do," Ralph told Remix Magazine in March, also admitting a fondness for Tool, Fuel and (God help him) Creed. "I want to create something that is organic and electronic at the same time. My roots are in rock — not soul or techno.

"I want to have guitars on the album."