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around and the darkened hills

The New Hawai'i

Waikiki is a sunlit paradise by day, but that doesn't mean it retires at sundown. By night, you can experience the new Hawai'i at these current spots.

Start early Friday night at the **W Hotel** (2885 Kalakaua; Tel: 808-922-1700), because after 10 the cover is steep and the lit long. You'll find a classy local and visitor clientele dancing to techno in the main area and hip-hop in the shadowy back room.

If electronica makes you dizzy, head straight to **Chemistry Lounge** (Esprit Lounge, Sheraton Waikiki, 2255 Kalakaua; Tel: 808-922-4422). Recently re-emerged on the scene, this venue plays new- and old-school hip-hop exclusively on Friday nights. Scope out the regulars from votive-lit tables, perch at the bar, or cool off on the pool side lanai.

If you're looking for variety, wait for Saturday at **Feng Shui** (Ciao Mein, Hyatt Waikiki, 2424 Kalakaua; Tel: 808-923-2426), where you might hear Queen, Bob Marley, or Sublime. Opened less than two years ago, the ongoing popularity of this indoor/outdoor club means it's sure to be bursting with well-dressed 20- to 40-somethings.

For what's really hot in Honolulu, follow the locals out of hotel land to historical, hip Chinatown. After dinner, the aged-brick and carved-wood ambience of **Indigo Restaurant** (1121 Nu'uuanu; Tel: 808-521-2900), with its paper lanterns and an Asian-style courtyard, is transformed by live jazz, reggae, and hip-hop. Friday's Get Fresh! event packs a stylish crowd into three rooms, each with different live or DJ sounds.

Just around the corner, everyone's talking about new **Thirtyninehotel** (39 North Hotel; Tel: 808-599-2552), a modern-art gallery by day that showcases cutting-edge work at night. Regularly featuring a live New York-style jazz band and reggae, Saturdays are reserved for sought-after house DJs. The space itself is minimalist cool, with concrete floors and white walls, cozy sofas, and low lights.— *Christine Thomas*

