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New York

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Gay & Lesbian



XL Nightclub rendering

XL Nightclub

In early 2012, the Out NYC, a straight-friendly hotel for gays, will open in the far-west reaches of Manhattan. The homo playground will include 105 guest rooms, a 24-hour restaurant and—as of October—XL Nightclub, a new 14,000-square-foot boîte. The club is a collaboration between '90s megastar promoters John Blair and Beto Sutter, and the gay-nightlife team of the moment, Tony Fornabaio and Brandon Voss (a.k.a. FV Events), who are also behind the weekly parties Club 57 and Rockit. Voss

gave us the lowdown on what to expect at XL.

Are you aiming XL more at visitors or locals? It is absolutely designed to attract locals. We will obviously cater to hotel guests, but this project is designed to be the premier gay destination for both New Yorkers and tourists.

It's open seven nights a week, which is a lot of time to fill for a club. What kind of bashes do you think you'll throw? We plan to have parties catering to college kids, Broadway boys, Latinos, pop-music fans—and we'll have big-name house-music DJs. There will be something for everybody—some nights will be more wild than others.

The lounge will also be open every day for those looking for a more mellow bar, and the cabaret will have live performances.

The hotel is a bit off the beaten path—almost at the Hudson River. Do you think the location will have an impact on New Yorkers venturing out? It's not the heart of Hell's Kitchen, but it's certainly close enough to the thousands of boys that call the neighborhood home. I'd argue the location is almost perfect.

—Ethan LaCroix

XL Nightclub at the Out NYC, 510 W 42nd St between Tenth and Eleventh Aves (xlnightclub.com). Opens October.

MORE ONLINE!

Visit newyork.timeout.com/fallpreview for additional Gay & Lesbian events.



Matinée's Patrick Crough

BEST OF THE REST

Matinée

Gentlemen, start your crunches: After making its debut on Governors Island last year, this roving megaparty returns to NYC, at sprawling Manhattan club District 36, following a visit to Club Pavilion on Fire Island Pines (Sat 3). This time around, producers Patrick Crough and Jake Resnicow are bringing performers from Cirque du Soleil into the mix—as if the party needed any more sexiness. *District 36 (matineenyc.com), Sun 4 at 10pm; \$20–\$65.*

Indigo Girls, Beauty Queen Sister

Emily Saliers and Amy Ray are going back to basics: The new album finds the band collaborating with producer Peter Collins, who helmed its '90s classics *Rites of Passage* and *Swamp Ophelia*. Guests include Lucy Wainwright Roche, who lends backing vocals to the song "War Rugs," inspired by this year's Egyptian revolution. *Out Oct 4; the band plays Beacon Theatre Oct 13.*

Arias with a Twist

After his triumphant Town Hall show in April, downtown legend Joey Arias returns to the stage, reviving his acclaimed 2008 collaboration with puppeteer Basil Twist. *Abrons Arts Center (ariaswithatwist.com), Sept 14–Oct 15; \$35–\$65.—EL*