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turbo clubs – nocni turbo-klubovi, zagreb

When we came to Zagreb in August 2005, we were looking for hidden places, clubs that are invisible at first sight. After the first scouting the locations, we found out, that there are different categories of hidden places.

Perhaps because they're not in the official club guide, or are already closed or not even opened, hidden on purpose or camouflaging, they were difficult to find for quite different reasons.

Altogether, they reflect the time of night between former Yugoslavia, the early post-communism years, the changes during and after the war in the beginning of nineties, until the latest tendencies of the beginning 21st century.

The range is between popular places of the 80ies, visited by younger generations oriented towards Western culture, that are already closed; Turbo Folk Clubs, a phenomenon that came up in the 90ies, mostly visited by a Serbian minority for folkloristic ethnic reasons, that have now changed and feature mtv-like dancefloors, where the younger generation of Croatian clubbers, still small kids during the war, is dancing their nights away to dance beats mixed with folkmusic samples; further unlabeled alternative clubs, that have always been trendsetters for the subculture from the 80ies to today, that appeared and partly disappeared with the changing times; night-clubs, more or less exclusive for all kinds of disco and dancefloor crowds; and others, still invisible, that still have to be found for the new crowd like the very young Croatian hip-hop scene that is nowadays making fun of and parodying the mafia and porno aesthetic of turbofolk, and various other new and upcoming trends.

Because a new club is always standing for a new image, a new location, that has not been branded by a certain style or time, is like a white sheet of paper or a brand new hard disk, it can be formatted. Ready to store new memory.

These clubs*, all together, reflect the transition from a socialistic to a capitalistic system. These changes always seem to go very fast, speeding up like a turbo motor. The clubs have also simultaneously rapidly changed: the club-scene, the music, style, design, attitude,, and that is why we like to call the series: Nocni turbo-klubovi, Zagreb.

*Kulusic, Tekstilac, Tockica, Attack, Nec, Pasha, Fontana, Carda, Mama, Mocvara, Sidro, No.1, Jednica, KSET, Horvacanska 32, Badel, Pothodnik, Branimirova, Francuski Paviljon, Klaonica, Paromlin

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