

club le monde

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Time Out

FILM



'Club Le Monde'

Dir Simon Rumley, GB

One snag with films about club culture is that styles date quickly, so this savvily deals the nostalgia card, setting its action circa 1993. Completing a loose trilogy of London-based youth dramas (the predecessors were 'Strong Language' and 'The Truth Game') by writer-director Simon Rumley, its plot links numerous characters over one night at the eponymous venue; bubbly Ali (Allison MacKenzie) finds herself on the pull in front of her estranged ex-boyfriend, under-age toffs try to score, airheads share powder and gossip in the ladies' room, a tough-nut bouncer betrays his sensitivity, and a gaggle of drag queens stumble into the party...

Club-owner Danny (gruff-voiced Frank

Harper, resembling a benevolent version of his role in last year's clubby 'South West 9') is a narrator of sorts, being given to soliloquies: 'I see men and women, black and white, straight and gay, old and young, rich and poor, all getting along fine. That makes me feel glad to be alive, that does.' The devil is in the details, though: hilarious individuals like loved-up loon Mr Sunglasses (a convincing gurn from Danny Nussbaum), clubbers wearing Carter USM and Silverfish T-shirts, real-life DJ heroes (Mr C, Alex P and Brandon Block) spinning anthems of the era. It adds up to a wistful rather than glamorous vision, basically a sitcom with a snappy bassline. But Rumley maintains a lively, quip-laced pace throughout, and a warmly accessible tone, to the effect that all human life is here, on the dancefloor.

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