

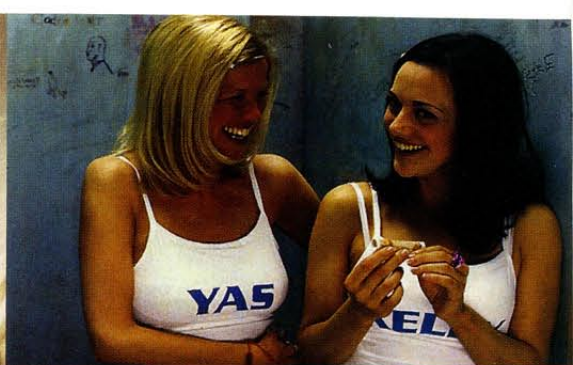
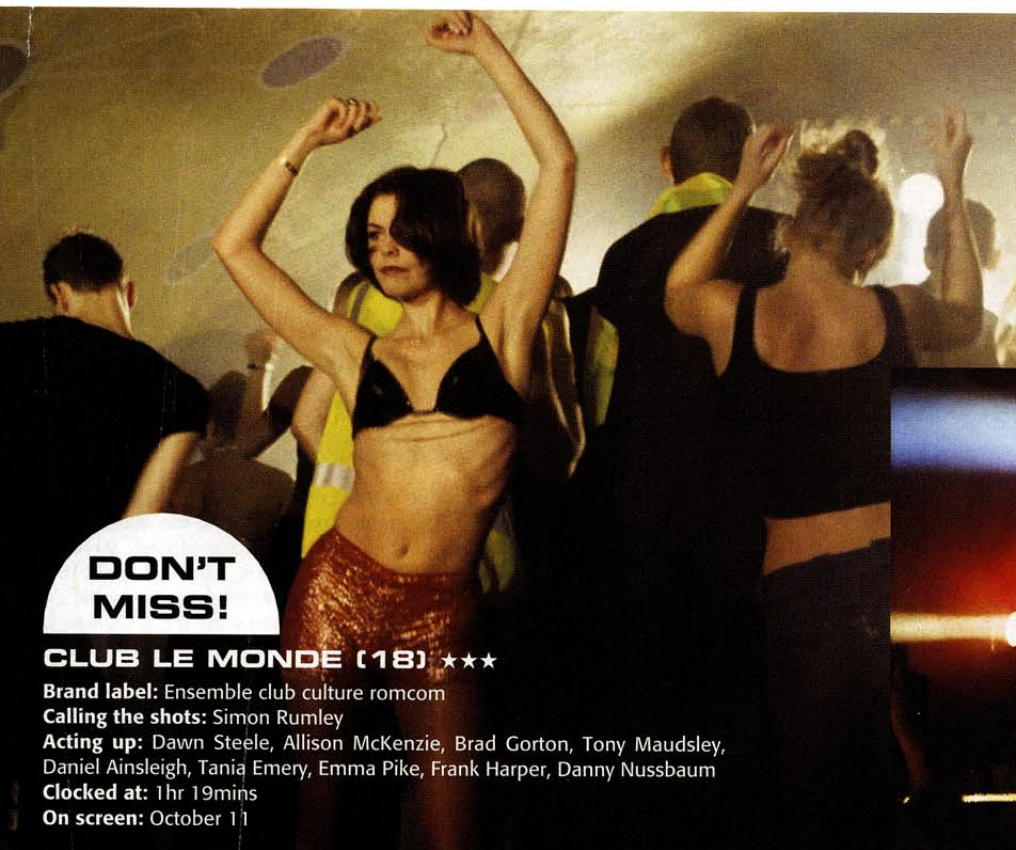
club le monde

uk press cuttings



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**DON'T
MISS!**

CLUB LE MONDE (18) ★★★

Brand label: Ensemble club culture romcom

Calling the shots: Simon Rumley

Acting up: Dawn Steele, Allison McKenzie, Brad Gorton, Tony Maudsley, Daniel Ainsleigh, Tania Emery, Emma Pike, Frank Harper, Danny Nussbaum

Clocked at: 1hr 19mins

On screen: October 11



The Pitch: London, 1993, and a bunch of characters are all gathering at the regular happening club night. Steve (Ainsleigh) is there trying to help mate Mike (Gorton) get over being dumped by his bird Ali (McKenzie) after he cheated on her. She's going with best mate Jaqui (Steele) to get her own back by snogging as many men as she can. Teenage Tonbridge Wells dipsticks Anthony (Tom Connolly) and Patrick (Tom Halstead) are there to try and score drugs and babes but really don't have a clue about either. Chas (Lee Oakes) has just had his nipple pierced and is now talking to his girlfriend about doing his dick too. With a badge pin. Bimbos Yas (Pike) and Kelly

(Emery) are there to spend the entire night in the toilets snorting coke and gossiping about contract killers and constipation. And then there's Mr Sunglasses (Nussbaum), who's so out of his tree he hasn't any idea why he's there but is happy to swallow or grope anything that comes within reach.

Then there's the staff. Promoter Danny (Harper) is shagging his mate's wife in the office, battleaxe barmaid Stella (Annette Badland) is a sweetheart really, the cloakroom attendant is giving the customers a time and bouncer Mosh (Maudsley) is a bit mixed up about his sexual inclinations and ambitions to become a lawyer.

The Play: Like most club nights it starts slowly and gathers speed as the place fills up. Characters come and go around the central boy wants to get girl back storyline. Some you miss, others you don't. There's dancing, drinking, drugs and drag queens.

The title and Harper's to camera opening and closing MCing monologues are a bit of a pretentious stab at saying here's a microcosm of the scene and all human life is here. But two parts *Human Traffic* to one part *Large* with an attempt at Tarantino banter, while the acting and dialogue is variable to say the least, Rumley's

low budget British independent (the third part of his London trilogy after *Strong Language* and *The Truth Game*) is never less than entertaining fun and at times frankly hilarious. More to the point, unlike many an attempt to put club action on screen, this gets the feel right, ably helped by the presence of Brandon Block, Alex P, and the Shamen's Mr C mixing the soundtrack (Atlantic Ocean, B Line, Alison Limerick, Chubby Chunks, Bizarre Inc, Powerzone etc) on screen. Any fantasies this might give them about pursuing thespian careers, though, should end right here.