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Music & Cybercultures

Music in Second Life

The Pixel Bean Coffeehouse

- <http://maps.secondlife.com/secondlife/ThePixelBean/98/149/25>

The Pixel Bean Coffeehouse has a number of different rooms and spaces where groups of people can congregate. While I was there, music from the 1920s and 1930s was being played on a record player. There were around 10 people in one section of the establishment that were doing mini performances for each other that were unrelated to the music being played by the record player. One avatar by the name of “Bowie Zeplin” sang the song “Dance, Magic Dance,” originally sung by David Bowie in the film *Labyrinth*. She dedicated it to one of her friends that was also in the room. She couldn’t remember all of the words, so others in the room (including myself) typed some of the verses out for her.

Club Nine

- <http://maps.secondlife.com/secondlife/ClubRoad/132/180/25>

Club Nine is a gay dance club that specializes in house/trance music performed by live DJs. Set up with multiple dance floors and a full bar, this club has many areas to go to meet new people and interact. There were not many people there while I was online, which was probably because it was the middle of the day on a Sunday (although there was a DJ performing at that time). Many of the avatars appeared as though they were gay men at a club, with enhanced muscular features and trendy clothing. The funniest part of this location was that it had a number of go-go stations that were free to use by anyone in the club. These were round pedestals that you could get on to dance for the other avatars.

Demonic Night Club

- <http://maps.secondlife.com/secondlife/DemonicNightClub/138/14/27>

The Demonic Night Club was the most interesting location I visited during my exploration of Second Life. It specializes in industrial rock, metal, and gothic music, with live DJs performing all throughout the day. While I was there, Demonic DJ Shiro Darkmatter was performing, playing mostly metal from the 1990s and 2000s. The club is connected to a mall area where one can purchase items all related to metal in some way. There were many people in the club (over 30), and nearly all of them appeared like they belonged in a club that specialized in this type of music. My avatar stood out in the crowd, and many commented on that fact (mostly calling me “cute” and commenting on how I must be a “newbie” in Second Life). The DJ was taking requests throughout the time I was in attendance.

Inferno Ice Dance Club

- <http://maps.secondlife.com/secondlife/Unico/159/231/22>

The Inferno Ice Dance Club specializes in dance, house, trance, and electronica music. Unfortunately I was the only person there, other than the DJ (whose avatar was a human-sized cat that was spinning records on the stage wearing headphones!). The club itself is really interesting. It has multiple levels and areas, including stages, bars, and an outdoor area. The theme of fire and ice runs throughout the club, so there are flames and ice/snow all over the club. The outdoor stage appears like it is on a glacier next to a lake, which is really neat. It is visually stunning overall, and reminded me of ice bars I have seen on television.

Molaskey's Pub

- <http://maps.secondlife.com/secondlife/Wichi/116/162/27>

Molaskey's is an Irish pub with multiple stages, areas, and a nearby beach. It has live acoustic music on Sundays and Mondays, which was occurring while I was there. The woman performing was singing and playing an acoustic guitar. Although there wasn't anything Irish to the sound of her music, the pub itself is decorated in a way that makes it Irish in appearance (colors, flags, etc.). There were only a few of us there at that time for the live music (and the others didn't want to chat with me), but that didn't stop the singer from performing all of the songs in her set.