

THE ENDING IS SUBLIME

End of an era as Edinburgh club says goodbye, writes **Yogi Haughton**

THE final curtain call has come for one of the Capital's most respected club nights and, indeed, one of Britain's most influential trance and techno clubs – Sublime.

As resident DJs Kev Wright, Idge, Gary Mac and Flix make their final bow, you could forgive them for experiencing a little regret at the thought of leaving their long-time home.

The seven-year itch has finally brought about what might be perceived by many Sublime fans as a rather rash decision. But club founders Scott Conchar and Graeme 'Grum' Anderson are adamant that enough is enough and it's time to move on.

Sublime kicked off at The Vaults in July '95, a year later they moved to Wilkie House until two years ago when Lothian and Borders Police gatecrashed the party.

"The police had a point to make, to show that they were fighting the war on drugs," admits Scott. "We were just really unlucky that the police picked our club and things were never the same again after that – the vibe was gone forever."

Scott and Grum prefer to pontificate on the club's finer achievements. They are proud that they were the first to break some big name DJs at early stages in their careers. Scott explains: "We started off playing acid house but there has never been a genre that you could say: 'Oh that's the Sublime sound'. Arguably, you could say that Sublime was at the fore of that trance sound and we brought some great DJs to Scotland before they had made their names, such as Paul Van Dyke, Timo Maas and Nick Warren."

Decor has always been a huge part of the Sublime nights and Grum is the man who provided the theatrical props, from the



GOOD NIGHT FROM THEM: The Sublime posse bring the curtain down on a seven-year era as one of the Capital's most respected club nights tomorrow

visual and animated to the downright bizarre. Grum explains what he plans to do with his weekends in the future and reflected on some of his "nightmare" attempts at bringing cold spaces alive.

"I'm moving to Portugal next year where I plan to work on outdoor events. I love making all those props and the thought of building things for the outdoors when it gets dark really excites me."

HE adds: "I once put a 28-foot wide, 18-foot high skateboard half-pipe with seven projectors reflecting on to it into Sublime. I cut a hole where the DJ worked through – it was incredible! It enveloped the whole crowd and the damn place just stopped when we switched it on – much better than a flat screen if you ask me, but hard

work." Scott recalls the time Grum bought some electric motors to Sublime. "He built these nine foot long pterodactyls, then attached them to the motors. They were flying about on bits of string like kids' aeroplanes", he laughs.

"Sublime was always a bit of a show, it was never a case of DJs just turning and playing music and that added to the anticipation of going to a night at Sublime. People would run in, throw their cash at us and head straight to the dance floor after standing in line for an hour – it was a white-knuckle ride in many respects."

Sublime has spent its last year at The Honeycomb – full circle for the club as The Honeycomb occupies the same space as their old home of The Vaults.

Grum feels that perhaps dance music parties have lost much of the underground

feel of the early days. "Clubs have to go back to being organised events that feel unorganised," he says.

Everything is organised for tomorrow, though, when Polish DJ Atmos steps behind the decks, once more at the last ever Sublime.

As Grum leaves The Honeycomb to prepare for Portugal, Scott retires from running clubs and the DJs talk about what they are going to do in their recording studio, you know a couple of kids are going to be blown away by what they experience and think about starting their own night.

Sublime is a hard act to follow, though.

● **Sublime @ The Honeycomb, Niddry Street, tomorrow, £10, 10.30pm-3am, 0131-668 3043**