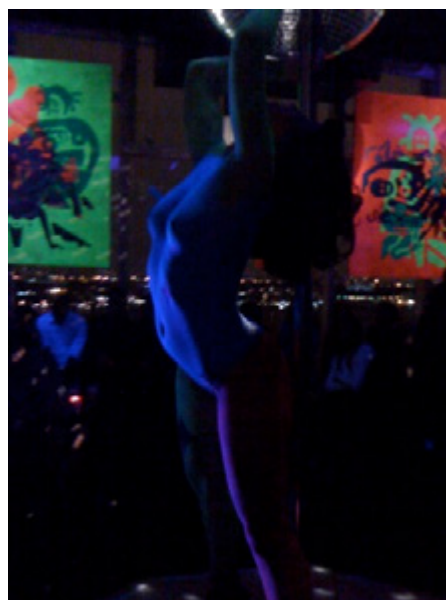


Lady Havoc! Ryan  
McGinness Brings  
“Women: The Blacklight  
Paintings” to Le Bain

By Yasha Wallin  
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When Ryan McGinness debuted “Women: The Black Light Paintings” it was at a seedy strip in the heart of Miami’s South Beach during Art Basel last December in conjunction with his gallery Country Club (LA and Cincinnati). Transforming the club into a one-night spectacle, McGinness adorned the walls with a blacklight installation and Day-Glo painted dancers, in nothing more than pinkie-sized thongs and towering plexi heels gyrated on platforms around the room. The art world audience appeared a little shell-shocked, but the bold and those hopped up on enough sugar from the \$50 bottles of nonalcoholic champagne welcomed the spirit of the event.

Last night at Le Bain at The Standard, for his second installment of the project, and launch of his “Blacklight Nudie” playing cards, the scene was even more celebratory. For the event, McGinness suspended four massive blacklight canvases on top of the sprawling windows that overlook the Hudson, and mounted a pole in the middle of the dance floor. The lovely ladies of Sapphire strip club, their bodies personalized by McGinness in yellows, pinks, blues and greens, took turns with entertainment. The crowd, raucous and lively, fueled by drink specials thematically named “Private Dancer,” “The Pole Trick” and “Lady Havoc,” reveled in the affair. Things kept going through to the early morning, but it was time for yours truly to call it quits, having enjoyed one too many “Pole Tricks”.