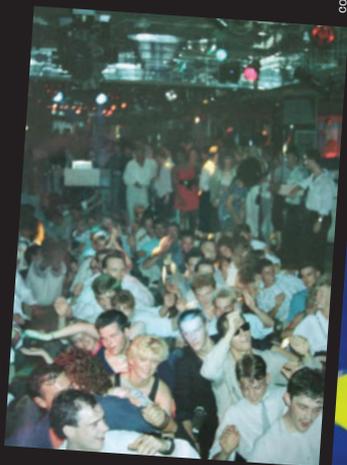
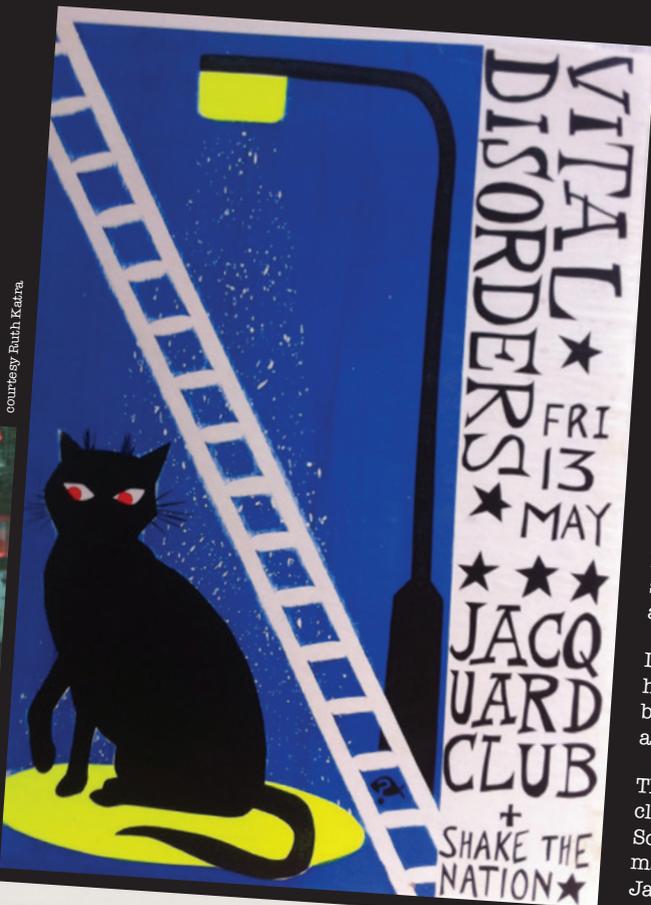


N

courtesy Ruth Kabra



night-life

'It was our Bronx.' (Mark Carver)

Anglia Square arrived like a spaceship from another dimension. Its futuristic brutalism (and its rapid decline) authenticated the quaint medieval city it landed on: for certain misfits and subcultures, at least, who reflected its awkward angles.

During the early to mid eighties, b-boys honed their moves in the precinct, before graduating to the city centre and Chapelfield.

The best-known of the Square's official clubs may have been Rick's Place (a.k.a. Scamps), a popular outpost of Tombland's mainstream nightlife; but setting aside The Jacquard, which was further up Magdalen Street, the musically significant venues were Pennies (formerly Cromwells) and The Regency Suite.

On the first floor opposite Roy's, this small function room was the notorious weekly home of Danger Zone Sound System, which rattled the windows throughout the early nineties. The Regency was also used in that period for Thirteenth Floor, a funk and psych night; and Love It, an early underground rave.

Further into the nineties, Pennies evolved into Fat Pauly's: a scuzzy pool club and gig venue, used by Rebel Lion (roots); Sureshot (hip-hop); Planet Yes (techno); Flux and Rumble (both drum'n'bass) and others. It was eventually squatted, when the music continued illegally.

George Mahood

courtesy Sally Fox

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