

Ms Barb Dahl



is impressed...



SUPPLIED PHOTO

...with the new rooftop hideaway at The Royal Ascot Hotel. Called Chill Lounge, and quite rightly so, the place has got all that you need for the perfect sundowner experience – four-poster beds, sweeping views of the Dubai skyline, free internet access, a variety of dishes cooked on an open charcoal grill, foot-tapping music and even reflexology sessions.

is marvelling...



SUPPLIED PHOTO

...at the ingenuity of Dubai-based Belgian sculptor Arnaud Rivieren, who experiments with stainless steel recycled from industrial scrap yards around town. His latest creation, *The Hatching*, deals with themes of identity and human nature – a ruminative process that finds solace in the shape of an egg. How egg-citing?

is bemused...



...by this conversation she overheard about a socialite: "She has got her face lifted so many times, they'll have to lower her body in future."



Early spin

He's a resident DJ at top hotels in Dubai. And he's still not out of his teens

BY PAULINE M. FORTE
STAFF REPORTER

At 18, DJ KnoX, aka Sahil Gupta, is the youngest DJ to spin music in Dubai clubs.

Born and raised in Delhi, India, Gupta moved to Dubai with his family in 2001 and started spinning four years ago at 14. He started by blending songs – and has been working on his own production for the last two years.

Gupta said nox means sound waves. "I put the K to make it funky, and it has become so popular that Angelina Jolie named her son after me," he said jokingly.

Although still a teenager, DJ KnoX is already enjoying great success, being a resident DJ every Friday night at Jimmy Dix at Movenpick Hotel and for special events at the Dhow Palace Hotel where he DJs for Temptations nights. He was also the official DJ for Royal Tours' New Year parties (2006-2008). Thursdays and Fridays are booked for private events, including weddings and hotel get-togethers. Rates are fixed depending on the amount of

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DJ KNOX, AKA SAHIL GUPTA

lighting and sound equipment he brings. The successful spinner charges from Dh4,000 to Dh10,000 for special events and Dh5,000 for ticketing events.

Besides getting feedback from clubgoers, Gupta checks the number of downloads and comments he receives on his Facebook and Beat Point pages. "Downloads have been coming between 100 and 200 per day with comments," he said.

The young DJ is currently working on making his own songs. "I started experimenting with my vocal talents," said Gupta, who also plays the keyboard.

"I'm making my own album – it's something that hasn't been done in Bollywood before."

The official record for the world's youngest DJ is held by UK-based Jack Hill, who played his first paid live gig when he was just seven years old. Jack was paid around Dh140 per hour.



PHOTO: WORLD RECORDS ACADEMY

Gupta is planning to release his first album before September but wouldn't reveal the specifics.

"Several artists are compiling the music. I will be doing the production. It won't be anything like what you hear on the radio."

Gupta has performed in Phuket and Bangkok in Thailand. But he reckons that unlike these places, Dubai is a good place for aspiring DJs.

"People know their music here. They know what DJing is all about."

Already well established on the Dubai music scene, Gupta hasn't given up his education. After studying at Delhi Private School in Sharjah, he's planning to get a degree in sound and audio engineering at Knowledge Village.

Gupta says he "lives for music" but he rarely goes clubbing.

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