

Atlas

March 2020

Explore the world with Etihad Airways

Rock solid
Guitar music
returns to the
London playlist

Horn section
Meet the women
saving South
Africa's rhinos

Neighing power
The secrets of
Abu Dhabi's
horse whisperer

36.7167° N, 4.4260° W

Perfect timing

*Etihad lands in
Málaga just as the
city comes into bloom*

The Globalist

FOR MODERN TRAVELLERS, BY MODERN TRAVELLERS



Grid preference

Capital ideas



Sahar Khan
Five stops in
Adams Morgan
– Washington
DC's hot-ticket
'hood

Illustration by
Bratislav Milenkovic



1. The hotel The LINE DC

What A Neoclassical former church – reborn as a hip hotel.
Go for Industrial-sleek rooms warmed up with quirky accents and bits from the property's ecclesiastic past.
But don't miss Three excellent restaurants: any higher power would forgive gluttony over the ember-grilled short rib with heirloom grits at A Rake's Progress, care of James Beard Award winner-chef Spike Gjerde.
See also The hotel's own internet radio station, which broadcasts free in-room podcasts from the lobby.
Info thelinehotel.com

2. The restaurant Lapis

What Trendy Afghan bistro that blends generations-old recipes with cheeky nods to Western palates (Kabul frittata, anyone?).
Go for In this pan-Afghanistan journey of aromatic flavours the crowd favourite is shrimp-stuffed mantoo dumplings with a saffron-cream sauce.
But don't miss The Afghan version of halwa, a saffron-infused semolina.
See also Nearby Tail up Goat recently earned a Michelin star for dishes like spicy ragu with pickled peppers and ricotta.
Info lapisdc.com

3. The museum District of Columbia Arts Center

What Local and under-represented artists feature at this performance-gallery space known for its provocative activist art.
Go for John D Antone's wiry, whimsical sculptures and Alec Simpson's pretty monotypes.
But don't miss A new show by Stephanie Garon, whose installations question humanity's role in environmental change.
See also Lost City Books, where 50,000 new and used volumes beckon from charmingly haphazard stacks.
Info dcartscenter.org

4. The bar Jack Rose Dining Saloon

What A modern take on a Wild West saloon, this sprawling five-room bar promises the largest selection of whiskeys in the Western hemisphere.
Go for Hard-to-find Japanese vintages feature among its 3,000 drams.
But don't miss The barkeeps' cocktail-shaking skills. The gin-based Brothers Divided runs equal parts sweet and spicy courtesy of white cacao and bitters.
See also Roofers Union's second-floor craft beer bar. Pair the Optimal Wit from charmingly beer-poached bratwurst.
Info jackrosedining.com



"Keep it wild; keep it slow; keep it quiet; keep it simple. Our philosophy was [to maintain] its melancholy and otherworldliness"

James Corner in *The High Line*, published by Phaidon



Life of the party



Carl Craig
Why I'm not – repeat *not* – hosting a techno festival in New York

It was around five years ago, I think, when the idea of my sound installation, *Party/After-Party* (6 March – 7 September, Dia Beacon, New York) first emerged. The guys at Dia Art Foundation wanted to do something to mark the first Dream Festival in 1975, a two-month sound event in New York curated by composer La Monte Young and artist Marian Zazeela. So, the first idea was to curate a music festival at Dia Beacon, the foundation's huge, 27,870m² gallery space in Hudson River Valley in Upstate New York. But, honestly, I wasn't really feeling that – for a couple of reasons: one, I wasn't so sure I was ready for that kind of responsibility; two, I felt, even back then, the festival circuit was kind of saturated. I didn't feel we could enter that space and do something truly interesting. Part of that, I suppose, is my belief that a DJ's natural habitat is in the club. I've always thought seeing a DJ at a festival is a bit like seeing an animal at a zoo versus the wild – it's the same animal but, you get the idea, the experience is different. Not always in a good way.

So, a half-decade on, the concept I've developed is a looped, immersive sound installation that centres on my experiences as a travelling DJ. Is it a party? No. I'm not trying to simulate a club experience in an art gallery. Pretty much anyone with a sound system and the space can do that. It's more like I'm telling a sonic story through a modular- and analogue-synthesised soundscape that chronicles the night of a DJ. So, yes, there are moments when it sounds like a club; but, more impactfully, I hope, there are down-tempo chapters that evoke a sense of what it's like to decompress as an artist. My guess is that most people don't appreciate that sense of loneliness or dislocation or alienation that comes with being a performer. I guess I wanted the piece to explore what it feels like for a person to be left alone with an adrenaline high after performing in front of 3,000 people. That's been a huge part of my career that I've never really had the chance to talk about openly before. So that's what it is: an evolving, meditative sound work that asks, quite straightforwardly, what happens when the party's over?



The Takeaway
Detroit techno grandee Carl Craig's long-anticipated sound installation opens this month at a museum in Upstate New York

Carl Craig is a techno producer-DJ. Party/After-Party opens 6 March at Dia Beacon, diaart.org

5. The music venue
Songbyrd Record Café
What A gig venue cum restaurant that serves spruced-up homely bites, plus a coffee shop and groovy vinyl store to boot.
Go for The line-up of indie, soul, R&B, funk and hip-hop artists. This month brings Hunny's bouncy dance tunes and the dream-pop lyricism of Tia Gostelow.
But don't miss The rotating selection of 1,500 new and reissued vinyl records.

National Cherry Blossom Festival is 20 March – 12 April, nationalcherryblossomfestival.org


Etihad offers one daily direct flight from Abu Dhabi to Washington DC. etihad.com