



Thomas Schoos believes in pushing the envelope, especially in Las Vegas. "You can be a little more avant-garde with relation to all the senses," says the nightclub and restaurant designer, whose projects include Tao Asian Bistro and Nightclub.

THE MEN WHO MAKE NIGHTCLUB MAGIC

Velvet ropes, the best loud music playing in posh, packed clubs, and the sexiest cocktails: It's all part of a night out in Vegas. And, thanks to people like our four nightlife moguls, Sin City's party scene remains second to none

BY E.C. GLADSTONE PORTRAITS BY TOMAS MUSCIONICO

In the ongoing battle for position and publicity, Las Vegas nightclubs love to promote their buxom bottle servers, hipster DJs and thick-necked hosts as the stars of their shows. But behind the scenes are players whose influence on the multimillion-dollar industry is at least as great—if not more so. After spending an "almost lost weekend" at this year's Nightclub & Bar Convention and Trade Show, E.C. Gladstone clinked glasses with master mixologist Tony Abou-Ganim, visionary nightclub designer Thomas Schoos, emerging tastemaker Jack Colton and tireless promotions director Steve Philiposian, four people who truly make our night.

THOMAS SCHOOS: THE VISIONARY

Every first-time visitor to Tao, the restaurant/lounge/nightclub/beach club at the Venetian, is undoubtedly struck by its impressive and incomparable interior design. Many, though, don't stop to think that there is a person behind that design.