

pulse

KL FINDS ITS GROOVE

TEXT JOHN LIM PHOTO SHERMEN MUKHTAR

Seeing that live music venues are such a rarity in the Klang Valley, it's no surprise the buzz is going out about Groove Junction. Opened on 15 March to little fanfare, Groove Junction has been garnering a growing and loyal crowd—thanks much in part to co-owner Jose Thomas, the celebrated jazz musician. Located on the first floor above Kama, Groove Junction is a place that immediately strikes one as an unpretentious hangout where people can go to enjoy the music. Unlike some other venues around town, no one here is dressed to be seen. And in case you're wondering, "unpretentious" isn't code for a place that serves beer and chicken wings atop cheap furniture—the place feels sophisticated and homely at the same time, with good food to boot. It's also a place where you can spot many new, young musicians playing alongside the vets. "Wherever I've been to, I've always played with young musicians because they are the future," says Thomas. "If you have great mentors to guide them, in the future, you're going to see some great musicians emerge." The music usually starts at 9pm on Tuesdays, with Wednesdays to Sundays starting at 10pm, with the music usually ending at 1.30am. Tuesday nights are low-key nights with a one or two-piece band playing, while Wednesdays are meant for upcoming singer-songwriters, with young musicians invited to take the stage "if you can have 70 per cent original material." Thursdays to Saturdays are full-on jazz sessions, culminating on Sunday nights where a host of musicians are invited to play, resulting in a real blast of jazz—the perfect way to sign off the weekend.

Groove Junction, 1-1 Jalan 22A/70A, Desa Sri Hartamas, Kuala Lumpur. Tel: 03-6201 8990. For More info, visit www.groove-junctionkl.com

Groove
Junction
Music Bistro

Menu