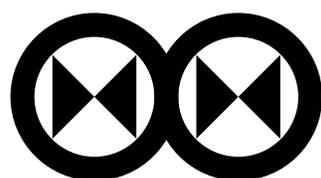
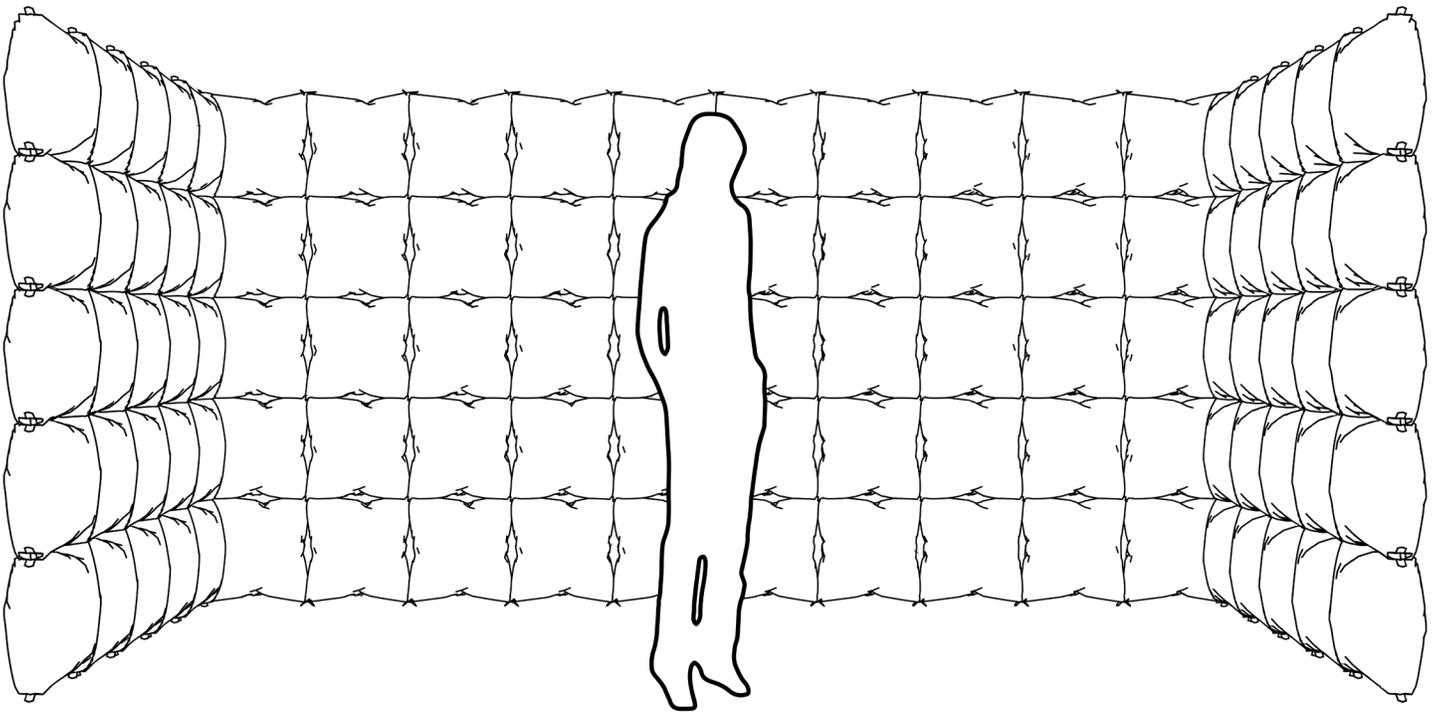


Erika's Birthday Bash: A case study by [New Nostalgia](#) for [program](#).





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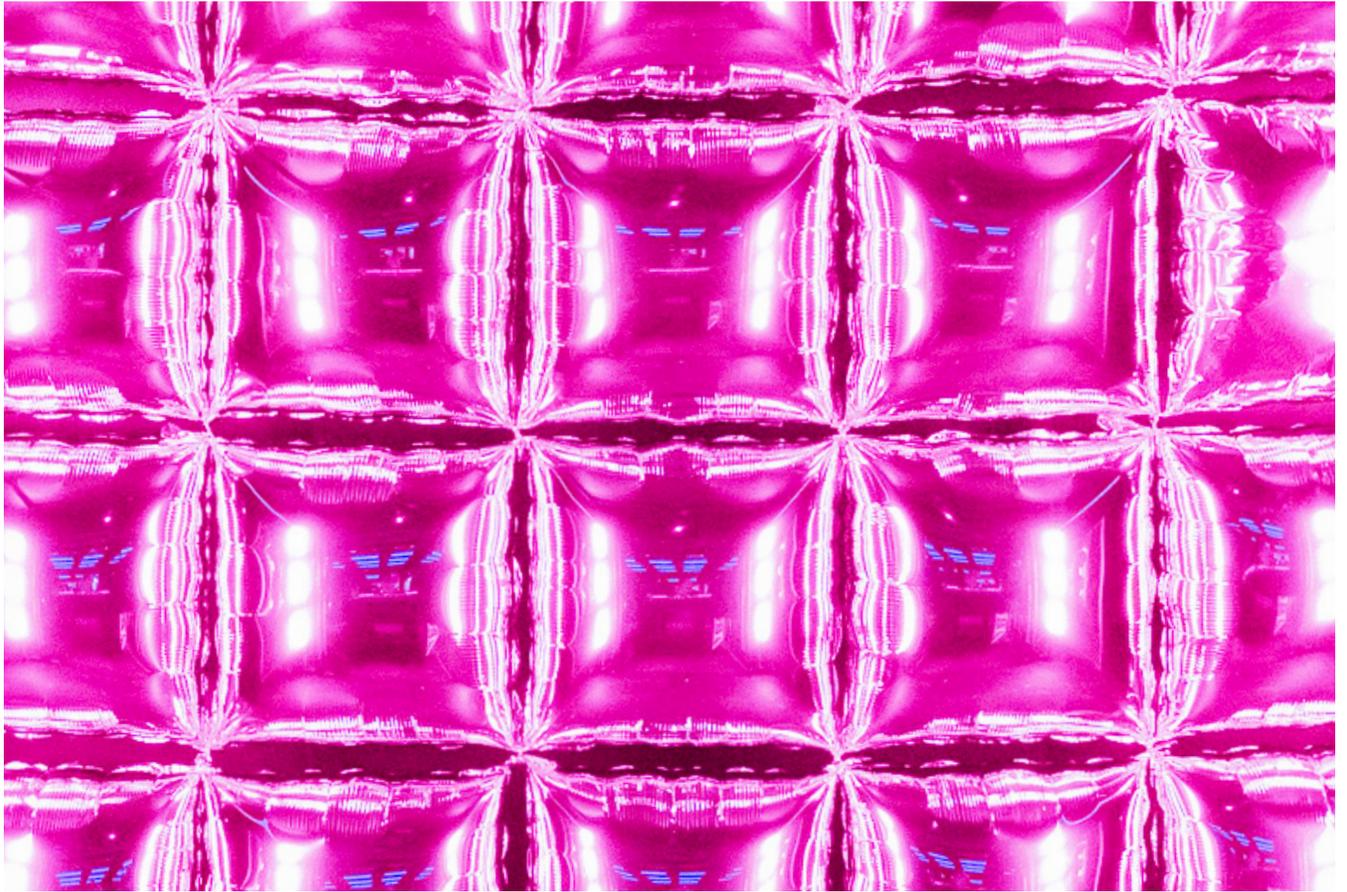
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Erika's Birthday Bash was a party hosted by San Francisco collective program that featured a lighting installation by New Nostalgia centered on the DJ booth. Chrome mylar balloons lined the side fence and back walls, while two trusses — each rigged with four moving head fixtures — framed the booth, directing light over the crowd or onto the DJ. Lights mounted on the trusses faced the balloon wall, casting shifting color environments across its reflective surface.

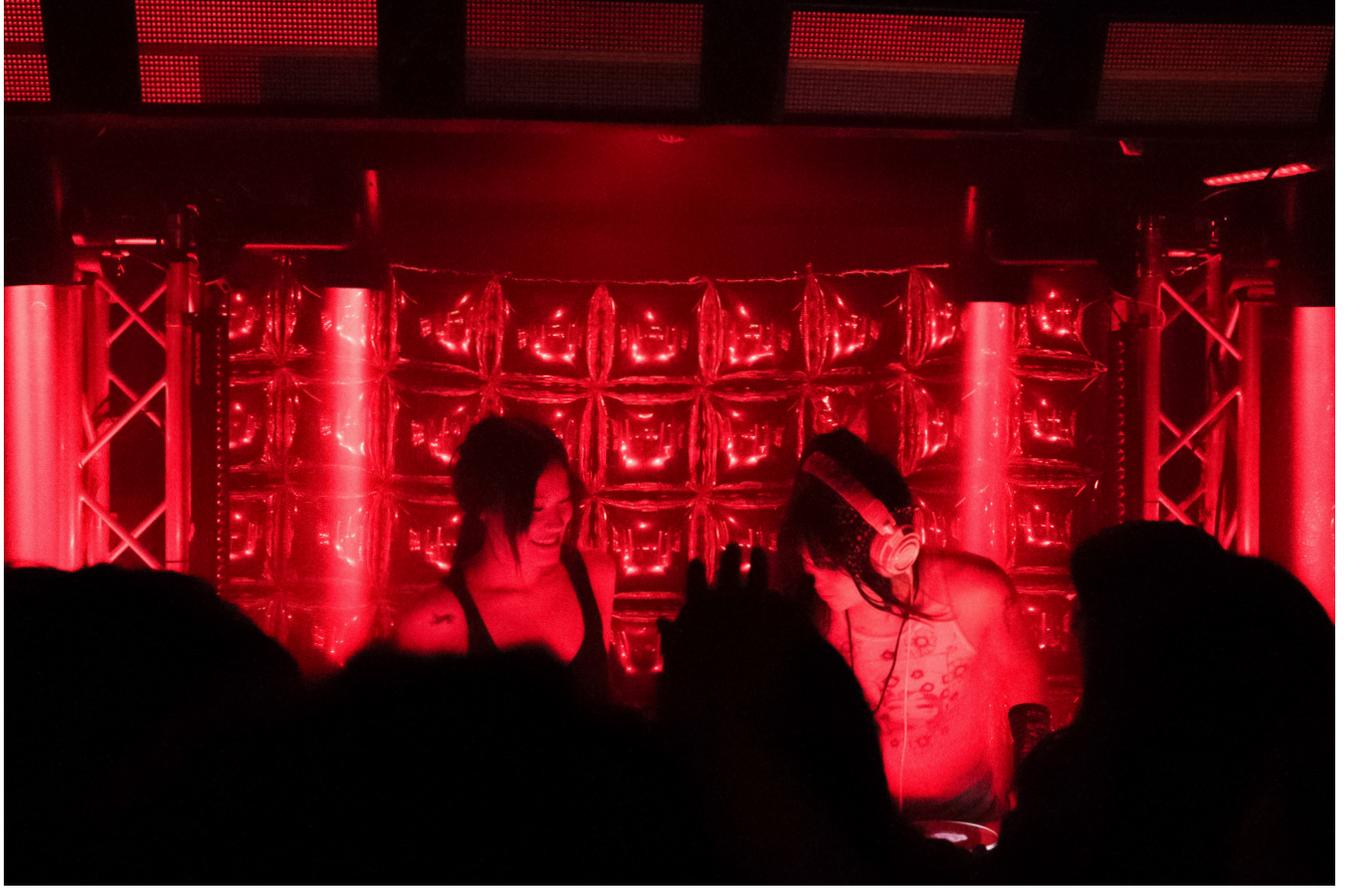
Erika in front of balloon wall installation. Cross-section of moving heads pointing down towards DJ.



Full mylar balloon wall installation view.



Moth and Technopagan Djing with fixtures pointing red volumetric lightstraight down in parallel lines



Erika in front of installation view.



Technical Overview

This section outlines the technical layout and lighting system used to construct the Baby Bash installation.

1. Truss & Fixture Layout

Two 7-foot freestanding truss towers were positioned symmetrically within the DJ booth beneath the venue's 8-foot ceiling. Each tower supported two Elation Dartz 360 moving heads at the top, three Rockville Stage Panel 864 fixtures mounted lengthwise along the rear face, and one Rockville Battery Strip 24 mounted on the front face.

Behind the DJ, a grid of 45 Mylar balloons formed a reflective surface across the back wall. The Stage Panels were aimed directly at this surface so that programmed chases appeared replicated across each balloon, visually multiplying the motion and creating a fragmented light field behind the performer.

2. Lighting Control

All fixtures were connected via DMX and operated from a single ADJ Wolfmix WMX1 lighting controller.

Moving heads projected beams over the audience and could also be directed toward the DJ for spotlight moments. Stage Panels were programmed with color shifts and chase patterns that animated the reflective balloon wall. Battery strips were aimed inward to provide strobing backlight accents on either side of the DJ, while the ADJ MegaFlash 800W was used handheld by the DJ for occasional high-power strobe bursts.

3. Atmospherics

Fog was generated using one Chauvet Hurricane 1800 machine positioned beneath the DJ booth and directed toward the back wall.

Rather than filling the room evenly, fog accumulated behind the performer, enhancing beam visibility from the Dartz fixtures and softening reflections across the balloon surface.

4. Gear Summary

Lighting & Rigging

- 2× 7 ft freestanding truss towers
- 4× Elation Dartz 360
- 6× Rockville Stage Panel 864
- 2× Rockville Battery Strip 24
- 1× ADJ MegaFlash 800W

Atmospherics

- 1× Chauvet Hurricane 1800 fog machine

Reflective Surface

- 45× Mylar balloons

Erika with installation view, San Francisco, CA, 2026

