

## Thrills and Chills

DC's after-dark scene is as diverse as its residents—meaning one man's perfect nightclub is another's nightmare. In honor of our Nightlife Issue, we present our picks for the best hot spots around town to max or relax. —*Erika Blankenship, Brittany Britto, Ginny Teague*



Thrill

### Look Lounge

Go back to the future at this sleek restaurant located in the K Street corridor. DC's young and hip flock to Look Lounge's bottle service on Friday and Saturday nights and, if you want to get in a little day drinking, happy hour starts at noon Monday to Friday. 1909 K St. NW, 202.331.1050, [lookatstreet.com](http://lookatstreet.com)

### Heist

The caper-inspired club opened earlier this year and has helped usher in a renaissance for DC's VIP scene. From the bullet-riddled bar to the bottle service that includes Champagne with a \$20,000 price tag, Heist is stealing the show. 1802 Jefferson Place NW, 202.716.2055, [heistdc.com](http://heistdc.com)

### The Gryphon

Watch your televised sports in style. The recently opened Gryphon's social scene is pure fun. Relax in the 5,000-square-foot eatery and people-watch—or head out to the expansive patio to sip some custom cocktails or housemade sodas. 1337 Connecticut Ave. NW, 202.827.8980, [thegryphondc.com](http://thegryphondc.com)



Chill

### Beuchert's Saloon

This former speakeasy, now a manly spot with two buffalo heads hanging above the bar, offers Capitol Hill staffers a new place to chill, with farm-to-table eats and, our favorite, mimosas on tap. 623 Pennsylvania Ave. SE, 202.733.1384, [beuchertssaloon.com](http://beuchertssaloon.com)



### Satellite Room

Satellite Room, the antidote for a rockin' evening at the nearby 9:30 Club, is a little down and dirty, but the fare is worth the no-frills atmosphere. Mod art on the walls and an outdoor patio for cocktail and a place to chill after a night on the town make this our top pick for a perfect nightcap. 2047 Ninth St. NW, 202.506.2496, [satellitedc.com](http://satellitedc.com)



CAMRON CALLING Elizabeth Esfahani opens Matt Camron Rugs & Tapestries in Georgetown.

### NEW IN TOWN

## Threads, Bared!

From Oriental to contemporary beauty, the newest showroom of Houston-based **Matt Camron Rugs & Tapestries** fits right in with Book Hill's antiques and art galleries. But the Georgetown outpost is not just another tony boutique; it's home base for a social and economic mission to raise the fortunes of women in Afghanistan. Elizabeth Esfahani (daughter of Matt Camron founder Matt Esfahani) and Dara Mersky met at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies. Now, they are working with the Defense Department to employ Afghan women to contribute to the colorful, trend-conscious lines for which Camron is famous.

"We wanted to work with local artisans on a sustainable social enterprise, especially for women," Esfahani says. "At the same time, we saw a need for patterns and textiles that reflect DC's international clientele." Contributing to economic development by decorating the Washington salons where such matters are discussed—how very appropriate. —*Jennifer Sergent*

### NUMBER CRUNCH

# 17 years

The amount of time that has passed since DC witnessed the odd-looking cicadas set to descend this season. The love bugs are expected to create a cacophony of noise throughout the region for up to six weeks. Your best bet for escaping the consistent buzzing? Cocktails! Try the Cicada Soiree cocktail at **The Ritz-Carlton, Washington DC**, made with Grey Goose L'Orange vodka, pineapple juice and blue curaçao, and garnished with a chocolate "cicada." We'll drink to that! [ritzcarlton.com](http://ritzcarlton.com) —*KW*

