

# Esquire

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## RESTAURANTS

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John Mariani

### IT AIN'T DE MEAT, IT'S DE MOTION

L. A.'s club scene may be off its pace, but maybe that's because everyone's packing in to **House of Blues** (8430 Sunset Boulevard; 213-650-0247), Isaac Tigrett and Dan Aykroyd's awesomely kinetic homage to America's greatest contribution to music. Tables are set on several levels, and the bar swings away at show time so you can see the artists onstage—all within an exterior made to look like a corrugated-metal Delta juke joint. Decorated with a stunning collection of black folk-art, House of Blues is as much a museum as it is a place to eat good platters of pork barbecue, jambalaya, gumbo, chicken-fried steak, and bourbon-laced bread pudding, and to hear—every night of the week—the world's greatest blues artists, from *Otis Rush and Little Richard* to Leon Redbone. If Walt Disney had had soul, he would have put House of Blues out in Anaheim. **12**