At 'The World' dancers gyrate amid far-out movies and flashing lights.
Wild New Flashy Bedlam of the Discothèque

To enjoy the latest thing in discothèques, you had better wear ear plugs, dark glasses and shin guards. Otherwise, you may be deafened, blinded and bruised in an electronic earthquake that engulfs you completely in an experience called "total recreation." It has developed out of the tamer discothèque clubs, and its common ingredients are blinking lights that look like Broadway signs gone berserk, canned or live music, dancing and far-out movies flashed on small screens. One place has a boutique, where you can buy nutty clothes to wear so you really fit into the picture. In these new clubs everybody looks like a kook in a Kults-Khanteen.

So far, about a half dozen of these nightclubs have been installed around New York and Chicago, and plans for more are being rushed. A touring unit, created by Pop Artist Andy Warhol and equipped with movie projectors and musicians, has been playing Los Angeles before moving on to San Francisco. Unexpectedly, the clubs report that liquor consumption is less than in conventional spots, mainly because the pandemonium takes the place of stimulants. At New York's chic Arthur, grandaddy of the new clubs, so many customers prefer soft drinks that they are sold at the same price as whisky, and the new Cheetah sells no hard liquor at all. With no threat of a hangover, most customers go home pooped but somehow restored, as if they had undergone successful shock therapy.
Andy Warhol's touring troupe, The Exploding Plastic Inevitable, creates an atmosphere for dancers at The Trip in Los Angeles, while films of the troupe, made by Warhol, are shown on screens at rear.

Sculptor of rock sound and light concept is Bob Goldstein's Lightworks Inc., where nightclub owners come to learn the latest and friends come to dance—including, at left, "Tiger" Moore, designer who dresses up in a shiny plastic jumpsuit. Above, at Cheetah, on Broadway, 3,000 colored lightbulbs dim and brighten, flick on and off as the music rises and sinks.
At Cheetah, once Broadway's Riviera Terrace, the massive hall holds 1,000 couples. Most are young and energetic, but there is a library, a movie room and color TV for those who run out of breath.

At Le Bixen, a new private club in Chicago, decor includes an automated abstract light-painting called The Translator which changes colors and patterns in response to the pitch of musical notes.

Op art, mad rags and a dazzle of changing color
controlled by music

At Arthur, in New York, the country's most famous discothèque, the patrons lend a bizarre air to the club, arrayed before a Mondrian-esque background in their Op art mad rags. In foreground is director, Sybil Burton Christopher.

At the Lightworks, guests are bathed in motiled colors which all but blot out what they are wearing. Here, the dancers churn in response to mood keyed by pop music and "light paintings" which are flashed onto screens in the background.

The World, in Garden City, N.Y., once an aircraft hangar, offers crowd of 2,500 multiple entertainment. While the band plays on raised stage at right, a TV camera throws image of dancers on center screen and slides appear on side screens.
Buying to the beat at Cheetah’s boutique

Cheetah has a boutique, within earshot of the big beat of the band playing inside. Here, boutique partner Lillenor (left) shows Carole Boyle of the Bronx the latest in Carnaby Street styling. A nude customer in plastic cap peeks from changing booth at right. Clients often leave their street clothes in shop and wear new mod fancies on the dance floor.