

Bananas

Joe Gaultieri

“Before The Venue I was running Bananas. I think...hazy days, everything was happening so fast. Two Jewish guys owned it. They sold their licence to the Palace because the council wouldn't give them a liquor license. The first gig I ran there was Rose Tattoo. They played so loud they pinned you to the back wall. They were going for it. Laurie Richards may have taken over after me.”

Source: St Kilda Music Walking Tour

Fred Negro

“Bananas was a dodgy place. Rose Tattoo (the Tats) were playing with the Tony Katz Band. The joint was full but halfway through the Tats a bunch of coppers walked through and spoke to management at the bar. The next thing they took down all the TVs and video players and gave them to the cops who took them away. The Editions used to do a Wednesday residency, so we were quite used to the local law leaving with a few slabs or cases of wine, but consumer electronics was new.”

Source: St Kilda Music Walking Tour

Phil Bryant

“In The Zorros we used to do a 1 or 2am gig at Bananas on a Tuesday morning; wild mixed crowd, sex workers, addicts, weirdos, insomniacs and plainclothes cops that would come in, have a word to the manager and leave with slabs of beer etc, then I'd pack up and go straight to work as an apprentice mechanic.”

Source: Facebook