What happens when Mexican masked wrestling meets burlesque? The answer is Lucha VaVOOM. On Wednesday, Oct. 26 at the Mayan Theater in downtown Los Angeles, the high-flying, body-slamming, sexually and sartorially revealing show draws a crowd of over a thousand costumed fans.

The 21-and-over crowd lines up on South Hill Street, eagerly waiting for the first of the two-night shows to begin. The interior is filled with dim red light and the sounds of Tiffany’s breakthrough ‘80s mall-rat hit “I Think We’re Alone Now” - performed in Spanish.

Hosts Blaine Capatch and Jeff Davis call out, “Lucha!” On cue, the composite crowd of “virgins” and veterans screams back in unison, “VaVOOM!” They continue the call-and-response throughout the night, as hosts of luchadores alternate with burlesque dance acts.

Diamondback Annie is a dancer whose face is painted like Paul Stanley from KISS. She strips down to a black thong and nipple tassels, her guitar.

Not to be outdone by the tassels, the show’s main event stars El Bombero and Cassandro, masked luchadores, taking on the “heels” - pantomime villains Pirata Morgan and Chupacabra. Their wild and fearless behavior makes too close for the first two rows of spectators, when El Bombero and Cassandro leap over the rope in pursuit of their masked opponents, crashing down into the crowd of paying customers.

Ultimately, El Bombero and Cassandro emerge victorious and the crowd roars in approval.

LUCHA...!