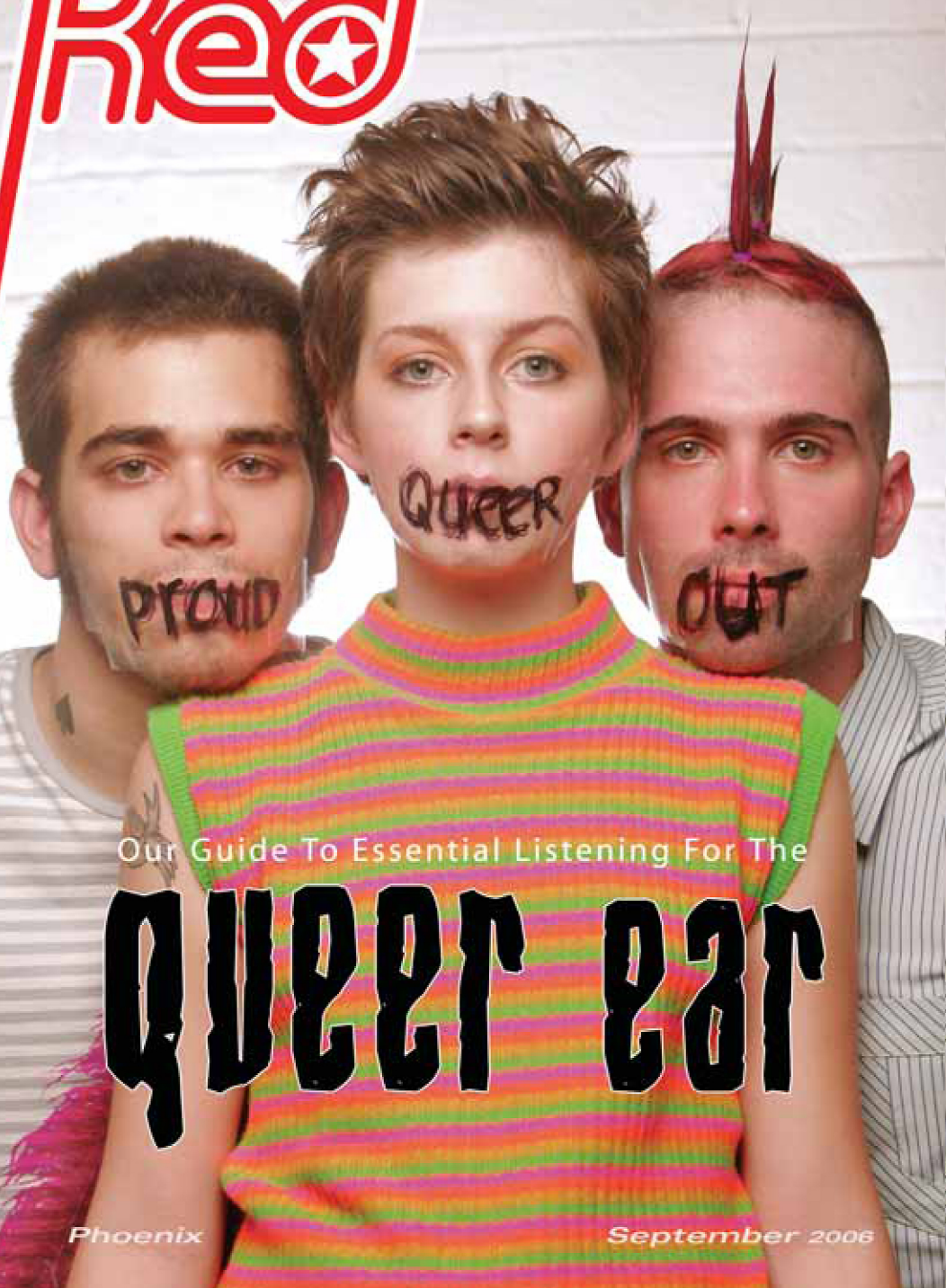


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Our Guide To Essential Listening For The

# QUEER EAR

Phoenix

September 2006



Queer  
Music  
For The  
Masses

Queer (kwir" adj. 1. Differing from what is usual or ordinary; odd; singular; strange 2. A strange or eccentric person 3. a homosexual.

When it comes to music that defies categorization and thwarts convention, while at the same time creating radical movements that reshape the musical landscape, there's no bigger influence than music that's queer. From disco and glam to homocore punk and acoustic angst, Queer defines the history of music that matters. In addition to our exclusive interviews with Jake Shears of **The Scissor Sisters** and **Amanda Plummer** of **The Dresden Dolls**, what follows are 20 more acts who continue to exemplify Queer music today. Essential listening for the queer ear...

## HOUSTONBERNARD

The New York-based, self-titled "ElectroRock performer and DJ/activist" has been making waves by creating rap music that's so queer it redefines the bad boy genre. His debut cd **Whores Have More Fun** was voted one of the Top 10 Indie Albums of 2005 by **The Advocate**.

## KEVINCAHOON

Performing in such queer musicals as **Hedwig & The Angry Inch** and **The Rocky Horror Show** were just the beginning for "professional outsider" **Cahoon**, whose glam-influenced debut release with his band **Ghetto Cowboy**, entitled simply **Doll**, received the **Outmusic Award** for Best Male Debut Recording.

## ANIDIFRANCO

The "It" girl for a new generation of queer rock, **Ani** has been cranking out a new album every year since 1990 and just keeps getting better with her staccato style, love of wordplay and plenty of take-no-prisoners attitude. Her latest, **Reprieve**, shows she hasn't lost any of that.

## SCOTTFREE

**Outmusic Award**-winner, social activist and host of the annual **Queer IS Folk Festival** in Chicago, **Free**'s latest release **They Call Me Mr. Free** is essential listening for anyone who values social diversity with a dash of go-to-hell sensibility.

## IMOGENEHEAP

Known for her ethereal voice and the ability to mix electronica, rock and pop into an all-new flavah, **Heap** has proven herself a force to be reckoned with. Her sophomore release, **Speak For Yourself**, has received rave reviews everywhere from **Gay Wired** to **Rolling Stone**.

## NAMOLIBRENNET

A 3-time **Outmusic Award** nominee, the transgendered songwriter has independently produced and released five cds since 2002 on her own label **Girl's Gotta Eat Records**, including her latest, **Chrysanthemum**, a heartbreaking collage of poetry and intense emotion.

## KJDENHERT

Calling her music "Urban Folk and Jazz, rooted in Funk and R&B," **Denhart**'s lush vocals and expert musicianship define cool without a hint of pretension. Her seventh release, **Another Year Gone By** won the **Independent Music Award 2006 Album Of The Year**.

## theEXBOYFRIENDS

Catchy, power-pop ditties about expired love, addiction and other angst torments are the trademark of this San Francisco trio, whose debut release, **Dear John**, features tight guitar licks, punctuated drums and razor sharp lyrics that will make you smile through the pain.

## BRIANGRILLO

Known as the godfather of Queercore, a label he detests in true punk fashion, **Grillo** has been belting out the grungy garage aesthetic since the early 90s with no end in sight. His latest release, **Stomping Back On Fire**, was voted number one on **Out.com**'s Best Music of 2005.

## ERICHIMAN

Buff and tattooed gay folk rocker **Himan** has gathered legions of devoted fans with his spirited live performances and awe-shucks banter, but don't be fooled, there's a savvy musical genius under all that ink, as his 2005 live release **One Night Stands** shows.

## LEVIKREIS

The out and proud singer/songwriter has been making fans on the road with his understated musical offerings, which are both intimately personal and universally honest, making his latest release, **One Of The Ones**, a soundtrack for brokenhearted sissy boys everywhere.

## PANSYDIVISION

Progenitors of the "queercore" movement of the early 90s, the boys may have lost a couple members over the years, but it hasn't changed the humor and drive of their sound, as shown in the must-have **Alternative Tentacles** release, **The Essential Pansy Division**.

## DYLANRICE

A rich, full voice reminiscent of 80s crooner **Rick Astley**, but backed by driving guitar rhythms and the kind of songwriting that makes grown men cry, **Rice**'s debut cd, **Wandering Eyes**, was voted one of the Top 10 Indie CDs of 2005 by **Advocate Magazine**.

## JYNXTITANIC

The Los Angeles-based party punk band, fronted by the cigar-chomping skin head **Jinx**, is known for its tongue-in-cheek lyrics and raucous style. Their debut disc, **Booted & Cuffed**, smacked up top ten lists everywhere queer music is appreciated.

## JOANJETT

The original rrrriot rrrrl, **Joan** has been a rock 'n roll inspiration to outsiders everywhere since her early pre-punk days with the **Runaways**, but her latest release, **Sinner**, shows that Joan is still as relevant today as she was way back when.



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Queer Music Eva-Iastri' Luv + Cred to Photographer IRVIN SERRANO Models CERDA - CHELSEA - LEVI - BEBE THE CHIHUAHUA Hair + Makeup AMY Z Production Manager BILL GAITHER Location HOLGA'S Phoenix Clothing RETAIL LABORATORY Phoenix 602-957-1408 Last but not least kisses to IAN + his hospitality

## newYORKDOLLS

What can one say about the band that was wearing makeup and dresses before **Bowie** and who inspired everything from punk rock to hair metal? How about welcome back! Their latest release, **One Day It Will Please Us To Remember Even This**, is worthy of their legendary status.

## AMYRAY

A founding member of the **Indigo Girls**, independent record mogul and social activist for a variety of causes, **Amy** has done more for Southern Punk Rock than any artist before her. Her 2005 release **Prom** shows that in-your-face can also be genteel.

## RACHAELSAGE

**Outmusic Award**-winner **Rachael Sage** comes on like **Tori Amos** without the angst, but don't let that stop you from giving her brand spankin' new seventh release, **The Blistering Sun**, a spin to find out why **Ani DiFranco** and **Patti Smith** are fans.

**JUSTIN TRANTER**  
semiPRECIOUS WEAPONS

It's been said of Justin Tranter's latest band that "when it comes to pure, no-bullshit glam rock, the **Semi-Precious Weapons** have it." Campy, stylish and oozing attitude, SPW's **Precious** EP redefines glam punk for the new millennium.

**VENUS deMARS**

The transgendered former lead singer of dark glam outfit **All The Pretty Horses** is out and on her own, bringing her signature **David Bowie**-inflected vocals and mesmerizing poetic sensibilities to her first solo effort, **Trashed And Broken Hearted**. Simply sublime!



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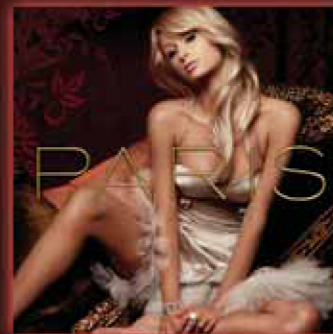
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