



Oh my goddess!

CONVERSATIONS WITH A POET,
MUSICIAN AND FORMER BITCH

Capital B was raised on violin lessons and the incessant pounding of aspiring tap dancers. The poet and musician's mother ran a tap dance studio from the family basement, and Capital B remembers the constant tapping. "I think that's partly why everything is so percussive," the dreadlocked artist says about her art.

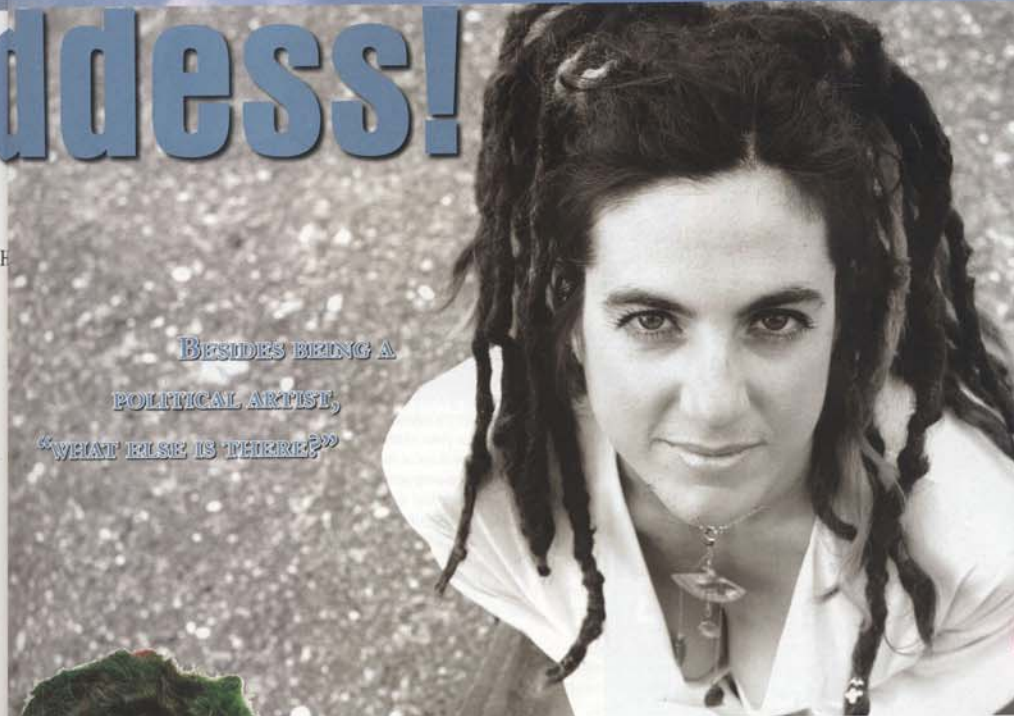
The violin and tap dancing skills would both manifest themselves in Capital B's stage career. Some fans may have already seen Capital B tap dance, back in the days when she called herself Bitch and was a part of Bitch and Animal. The political and often humorous lesbian duo (signed to Ani DiFranco's Righteous Babe Records) used to incorporate Bitch's heel clicking and tapping talents into their live shows.

Then the tap dancing stopped and Bitch and Animal decided to move into different solo careers. Since their separation Animal has been teaching music to children and creating new music for a solo album. Bitch, on the other hand, has moved into a prolific solo career fueled by poetry and marked by a creative transition that has recently led her to change her alias to Capital B.

The genuine, natural, lo-fi artist's most recent release is the profound and sometimes symphonic album, *Make This/Break This*. Fashioned during the artist's first trip to eastern Europe, its adventures on the ukulele, violin, and bass guitar explore the ways in which our economic system can shape who we are as a society. "It was pretty significant for me to see how people lived under communism," Capital B says about her trip. "I was really blown away by the lack of advertising, by the fact that nature was still intact and hadn't been mowed down yet."

From this album is one of Capital B's proudest achievements, the song "Rise." "I'm very proud of that song because it gets people really amped up politically," Capital B said, exuding calm enthusiasm. This type of heavy subject matter is typical for the artist.

"What else is there?" the poet responded when asked whether she was okay with bearing the burden of being a political artist. Her poems and songs frequently refer to the gap between sexes, politics, and life in general. More than anyone, Capital B would love to see Oprah



BESIDES BEING A
POLITICAL ARTIST,
"WHAT ELSE IS THERE?"



run for president in the upcoming election, but in case the talk show host doesn't run she's "pretty into this Obama guy."

Capital B, who often breathes "Oh my Goddess" when she hears something even somewhat astonishing, has also recently appeared in John Cameron Mitchell's *Shortbus*. The film, named after a sex salon in New York city, daringly delves into the world of orgies, free love, and homosexual sex. Variety called it "Unquestionably the most sexually graphic American narrative feature ever made outside the porn industry." Capital B appeared in the lesbian hangout of Shortbus, along with her real-life girlfriend, Daniela Sea.

Daniela and Capital B have been together for years. They've traveled the world together and Capital B has seen Daniela's aspirations become reality. Daniela, who wanted

to be an actress, won a place on Showtime's *L Word* and has probably turned herself into one of the most desired people in the lesbian world. "She's definitely had some anonymity issues in New York," Capital B says proudly.

The couple's relationship has recently manifested itself in their professional lives. Capital B and Daniela are starting umbrella company called The Exciting Conclusion.

In ten years Capital B sees herself owning a huge country home with Daniela, where all their friends can come over. They'll also have a city abode for when they need to perform. The Exciting Conclusion will have released a few films and presented fans with multidimensional live music and cinematic experiences. Not only that, but Capital B will tout her tap dancing skills on the stage again.

"I think I'll be incorporating it in the future," Capital B says dreamily. But in her voice is also the deep determination you feel in your gut, the quiet confidence that foretells the future. After forecasting her life ten years from now, Capital B has excitement in her voice, and with a quick laugh and recalling of the plan, says, "Oh, I'm going to have to call and tell Daniela about that." ○