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PROFILE Alexander Sliwinski February 22, 2007

Enjoy Bitch while she lasts

BITCH PLAYS SOLO MARCH 2 AT CLUB PASSIM IN CAMBRIDGE AND CAF&IACUTE; NINE IN NEW HAVEN THE FOLLOWING DAY

Bitch has gone solo, leaving behind former band mate and ex-girlfriend Animal. The musical pair known as "Bitch and Animal" decided on again and off again to move on. And with Bitch launching her solo album, "Make This, Break This," it is apparent that the pair have parted ways - not that Bitch is opposed to playing with Animal again. Now, Bitch, in a strong relationship with "The L Word's" Daniela Sea, a solid fan base and semi-new musical direction, may be ready to change more than her fans are ready for - dropping her stage name.

"It's hard to say what's my own evolution and what's other people's baggage. People are taking issue [with my name Bitch] as I work moving into other circles. I don't know if that's my own process or the circles I'm moving in. People are just so shocked that I would dare call myself that. I've definitely thought a lot about it lately, this name I gave myself at 21 will no longer serve me."

She hasn't dropped Bitch just yet though. For now, just keep calling her Bitch. And she's happy to be solo even though it's super overwhelming and the impulse to hustle



Bitch's debut LP entitled "Make This/Break This" is due out late fall of 2006. She lands March 2 to perform in Cambridge at Club Passim and the following day at Café Nine in New Haven. Photo: Roberto Portillo

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all the time doesn't end.

On her album "Make This, Break This," Bitch worked with producer June Millington. Millington first popped up in the '60s as part of the girl rock band Fanny, which David Bowie said in a 1999 Rolling Stone interview, "One of the most important female bands in American rock has been buried without a trace. And that is Fanny ! They're as important as anybody else who's ever been, ever; it just wasn't their time."

Bitch says that working with Millington was one of those experiences where you picture a younger eager student with an older wiser woman. They're both Aries, so things were a bit fiery through the production process. Not to mention that Bitch and Millington weren't exactly on the same schedule, Bitch says, "She's a total rock and roll night owl person. Starts at 5 p.m. and goes till 6 a.m. I'm usually in bed by 3 a.m., so I'd be getting up in the morning, she'd be going to bed. She's great. She has such vision. I had these skeletons of songs and she helped me bring them to life."

One of the things that jumps out about "Make this, Break this," and Bitch recognizes this, is the portions on the very personal album where she talks about having sex with a man. For fans of the out and proud lesbian it certainly comes as jarring to hear about her with a man.

"One of the songs is about this ex of mine, we had a real magic love this boy and I. I was dating this trans guy before meeting Daniela. He's a boy, but he's this different kind of boy. So, a lot of songs are about this trans boy I was dating ! It was wild for me, like the world is looking at me like I'm straight. I hadn't dated a bio boy since before Animal."

Bitch's trans love days are behind her now and she's back to bio babes, but the experience is certainly a strong influence on her album. She's quite happy with Sea and their chihuahua/mini-pincer mix Romano. They're permanent home is New York, but Bitch travels with Sea up to Vancouver when she's taping "The L Word."

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Bitch has come to learn that her private conversations with Sea are no longer private. Despite being recognized far more sporadically than Sea, she knew it was time to stay conscious of her surroundings after going out for dinner one night in their neighborhood. She and Sea thought they could just be free with their conversation. That illusion came crashing down the next day on Bitch's MySpace page when somebody repeated back her dinner conversation. Bitch is adjusting though.

She's even moving beyond her existence as the "punk artist little sister of all [her] folk goddess heros." She's always been a little bit of a shaker upper she says. She was the girl who sang "Pussy Manifesto" at an Indigo Girls concert to play with people's patience."

On her newest album she can see the first track on the album, "Unstick," having the most commercial appeal and jumping to the mainstream, "Yeah, see, I like that one because of the orchestra vibe and the symphonic nature of it. Maybe with some more heavy beat." Asked if she'd turn it techno and it accidentally became #1 on the Billboard dance charts, would she be devastated?

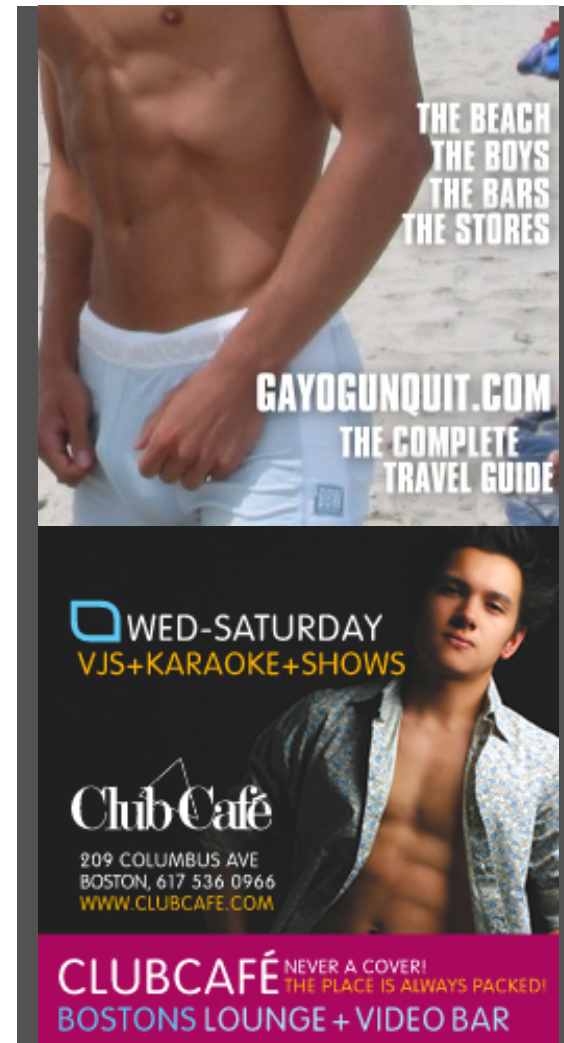
"I would love it! A part of me wants to make some crazy pop video. That would make me piss myself with laughter." •

Bitch performs songs from "Make This, Break This," March 2 in Cambridge, Mass. at Club Passim and March 3 at Caffi Nine in New Haven, Conn.

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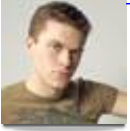
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