

100 // M.I.A.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY PEROU

M.I.A.: "I thought Stonehenge would be bigger!"

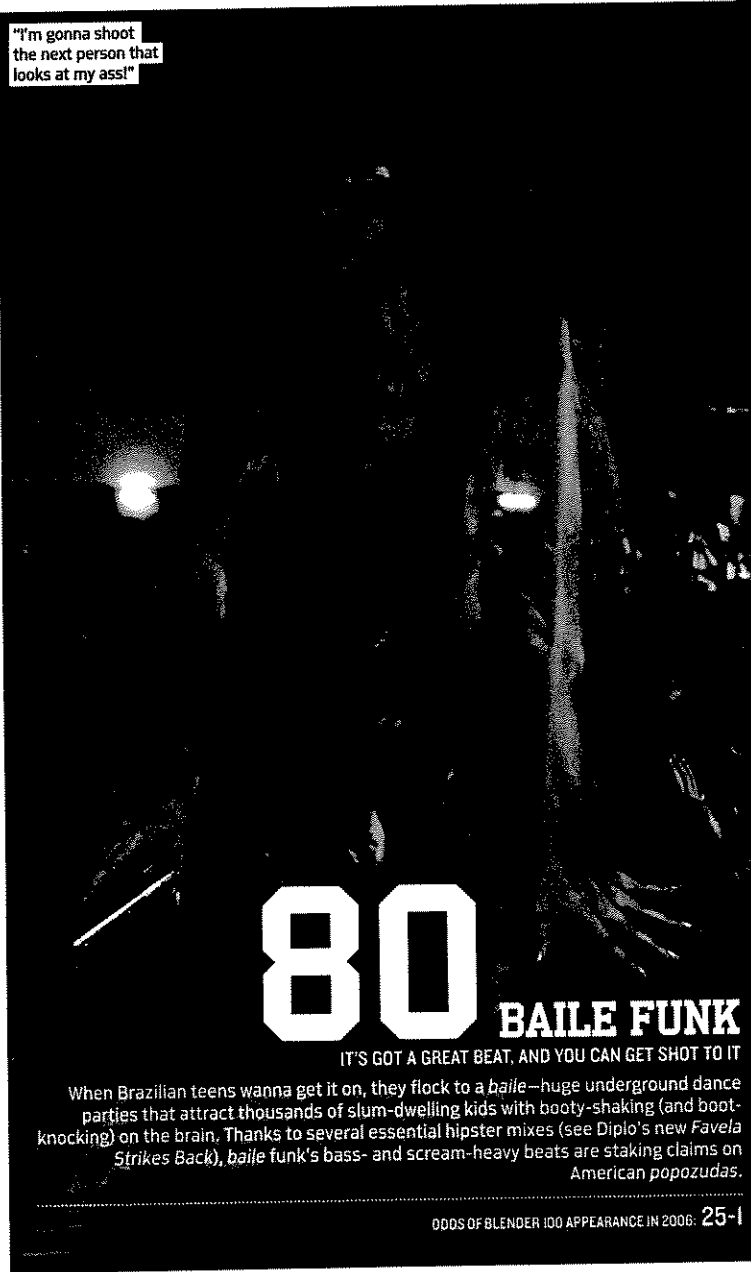
CHRIS MARTIN AND PARIS HILTON. COWBELLS AND RINGTONES. 69-YEAR-OLD WILDMEN AND 18-YEAR-OLD WILDGIRLS. ALL THIS, AND SOME BANDS YOU MIGHT REALLY ENJOY, IN OUR THIRD ANNUAL ROUNDUP OF HOTNESS

THE BLENDER

100

BY CLARK COLLIS, VICTORIA DESILVERIO, JOSH EELLS, LAUREN HARRIS, STEVE KANDELL, CRAIG MARKS, CHRIS NORRIS, BRIAN RAFFERY, WILLIAM SHAW, ROB TANNENBAUM, JONAH WEINER, ROBBIE WHELAN AND DOUGLAS WOLK

"I'm gonna shoot the next person that looks at my ass!"



80 BAILE FUNK

IT'S GOT A GREAT BEAT, AND YOU CAN GET SHOT TO IT

When Brazilian teens wanna get it on, they flock to a *baile*—huge underground dance parties that attract thousands of slum-dwelling kids with booty-shaking (and boot-knocking) on the brain. Thanks to several essential hipster mixes (see Diplo's new *Favela Strikes Back*), *baile funk*'s bass- and scream-heavy beats are staking claims on American *popozudas*.

ODDS OF BLENDER 100 APPEARANCE IN 2006: 25-1

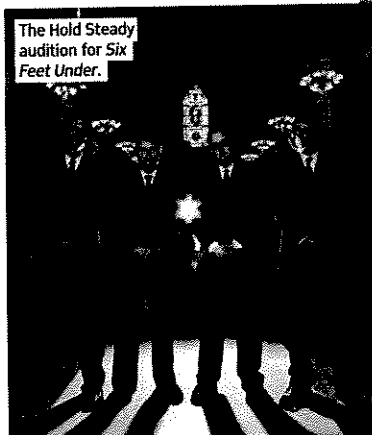
79 THE HOLD STEADY

LIKE POIGNANT MUSICAL TALES AND SPECTACLES? THEN HAVE WE GOT A BAND FOR YOU!

On *Separation Sunday*, the second album from this Brooklyn-based five-piece, bespectacled balladeer Craig Finn spews the lyrics to his story-songs about addled misfits like a slurry Springsteen, circa *The Wild*, *the Innocent*, and *the E Street Shuffle*—backed by Cheap Trick.

ODDS OF BLENDER 100 APPEARANCE IN 2006: 60-1

The Hold Steady audition for *Six Feet Under*.



78

POSTMODERN FUNKS

ART BRUT

Fronted by a smart-ass social worker named Eddie Argos, these Londoners took a postmodern concept—a single about starting a band and writing a single—and made it rock. "Formed a Band" sounded like a self-conscious Sex Pistols and whipped up an international indie buzz for their debut CD, *Bang Bang Rock & Roll*.

77

BRILLIANTLY BITCHY BLOGGING

PINK IS THE NEW BLOG

Just over a year old, this celeb-obsessed photo blog combines the wit of Oscar Wilde with the wisdom of *Us Weekly*, with daily updates on young Hollywood's fashion, eating and relationship disorders. The precise cattiness of its captions makes even Nick Lachey's most mundane trip to Rite Aid hilarious.

76

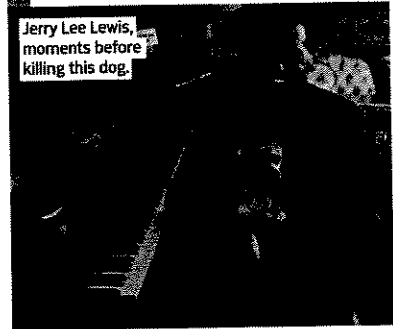
CONSOLE CONCERTOS

VIDEO GAMES LIVE!

Who said *Halo*-obsessed shut-ins can't appreciate fine culture? The Video Games Live concert tour is what it sounds like—music from top videogames performed by a full orchestra and choir, coming to an amphitheater near you. And accompanied by a laser show. Break out the double-wide lawn chair, nerds: It's time to go outdoors!

Blender
September
2005

Jerry Lee Lewis, moments before killing this dog.



75 JERRY LEE LEWIS

THE KILLER RETURNS TO REVEAL THAT HE STILL HAS GREAT BALLS ... OF FIRE!

Although he is one of rock & roll's last surviving original architects—and one of the last surviving people to think it's OK to marry your underage cousin—Jerry Lee Lewis's career was, until recently, as dead as the 69-year-old hellraiser should probably be by now. But a soon-to-be-released new album—master-minded, bizarrely, by ex-Liz Hurley paramour Steve Bing—could well find the Killer enjoying a Carlos Santana-style comeback thanks to guest appearances from Messrs. Jagger, Richards, Starr, Clapton and Springsteen.

ODDS OF BLENDER 100 APPEARANCE IN 2006: 18-1

74 KIDZ BOP

KICKING BARNEY'S ASS SINCE 2001

Producer Phil Spector once described his songs as "little symphonies for the kids." This grade-school franchise is little symphonies by the kids—rock and pop hits reinterpreted by a bunch of overcaffeinated 9-year-olds. The latest CD includes tracks by Usher, Franz Ferdinand and Kelly Clarkson, and the series has sold nearly 5 million albums. The key to its success? "Anyone can be a Kidz Bop kid," says label exec Michael Krumper. "You just sing along."

ODDS OF BLENDER 100 APPEARANCE IN 2006: 80-1