## Tori Amos fosters healing through song

Although sometimes troubling and always brutally honest, junist/vocalist Torl Amos's songs foster healing. Her debut album, "Little Earthquakes," tackled the subject of rape. "Me and a Gun," for example, tolls the story of a woman being raped and the thoughts that go through her mind: "I sam group the story of a woman being raped and the thoughts that go through her mind: "I sam group the subject to the story of a gun and a man on my back but I havon't seen Barbados so I must get out of this."

"God," from her sophomore effort "Under The Pink," covered her upbringing as the daughter of a preacher: "God sometimes you just don't come through. Do you need a woman to look after you? God sometimes you just don't come through. Her latest album, "Boys For Pele," was her catharsis after she and her boyfriend broke up. The album allowed her to grieve but there was still something missing. Recently she released "Hey Jupitor," an EP that includes a

different version of the song found on "Boys for Fele" as well as uncleased live recordings. The "Dakota Version" of "Hey Jupiter" leads Amos's vecals over a backbeat and lush harmonies. The album take of the song is poignant and sombor — just her and her piano.

"I knew I needed to say good-bye. It was my way of saying good-bye to a part of myself. It's more of a personal message and I just needed to express "Hey Jupiter" in a different way from the album version." Amos said in a recent phone conversation.

"They're both valid to me. One was written right when I was going through a separation with someone, and this is two years later. I'm finally ready to say goodbye which is a hard thing to do. I think the break up is like a death, and "Boys For Pele' was my grieving, and 'Hey Jupiter' is my goodbye."

Re-recording "Hoy Jupiter' Re-

my goodbye."
Re-recording "Hey Jupiter"
was therapeutic for Amos.
"If you slam the door on something and don't deal with your

feelings, you'll have to deal with them eventually. (10 you busy yourself and put the pedal to the floor and move on, you really haven't made peace with your heart. Sometimes you have team and throw things and do all sorts of things and to all sorts of things and to all sorts of things. But I dow! Hopfully people will be more think you ever really take the diamonds of the relationship with you unless you can admit your true feelings. That means the hurt and the love, and where you disagreed."

Boys for Pele was recorded in rural Ireland and Louisiana. From the rictous "Professional Widow," through the poignant widow," through the poignant all "Doughnut Song," to the harpsichord pop of "Talula," and the bluesy "in The Springtime of Mis Voodoo," this is a work of musical extremes.

Outside of her music, Amos has been active with her record label, Igloo, and with rape sup-port groups. She started an 800 number referral line for rape vic-tims, but funding ran out. Amos

Wyou have a question or comment for Christina Fuoco, you can write to her clo The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 38251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, or via cmail at cfuoco@cal.com. You can also leave a message for her by calling (313) 953-2047, mailbox 2130 on a Touch-Tone phone.



Coming to town: Pianist/singer/songwriter Tori Amos returns to the area Friday, Sept. 27, to play Hill Auditorium in Ann Arbor.

## Gay films find showcase at Birmingham Theatre during festival

A controversial film about the start of the modern gay rights movement kicks off the fourth annual Michigan Leabian and Gay Film Festival this weekend. For event organizer Michael Lary, the screening of "Stonewall" and six other features marks a significant change in the festival.

"The majority of films I show have never been to Detroit or

probably won't be," Lary says of
the selections. The festival is
sponsored by his organization,
South East Michigan Pride. The
event has moved to the
Birmingham Theatre from the
Magic Bag Theatre in Ferndale,
where it has been held for the
last three years.
A champagne reception will be
held in the spacious lobby before
the single screening of
"Stonewall" on Friday night.
Adapted from Mark
Duberman's book, "Stonewall"

White: The Fourth Annual III Michigan Use Sept 126 / Fm ... Feet All III Michigan Use Sept 126 / Fm ... Feet All III Michigan Use Sept 126 / Fm ... Feet All III Michigan Use Sept 126 / Fm ... Fm ...

follows the lives of a half dozen gay New Yorkers in the weeks prior to the events at the

Stonewall Inn in Greenwich Villago, where a routine harassment spree by police turned into a riot and protest that effectively launched the modern gay rights movement. The movie has drawn controversy for playing loose with history, but, according to Lary, once you realize that this is a fictionalized account, told from the point of view of a drag queen, it's quite entertaining."

The rest of the series focuses on short and feature films, most shown on both Saturday and

Sunday. "Man of the Year' is the documentary account of a gay man who became a sensation as a model for Playgiri.

"Costa Brava," the closing film on Sunday night, stars prolific leabian actress Desi del Valle, who will also introduce the film. Lary, who manages Gayle's Caccolates down the street from the Birmingham Theatre, recently attended the San Francisco Lesbian and Gay Film Festival. He belleves that the success of recent independent films such as

"It's My Party" and "The Sum of Us," has given movie audiences the opportunity to view gay characters better. The Film Festival, which plans to draw 3,000 moviegoers, is SEMP's second biggest event of the year, next to the annual PrideFest in June, Meanwhite, several comedy and musical performers are on tap at the Magic Bag Theatre in Ferndale along with a new slate of monthly movies at the Birmingham.

## SCREEN SCENE

A sampling of what's playing at alternative movic theaters across metro Detroit as reviewed by John Monaghan.

Detroit Flim Theatre 5200
Woodward, Detroit. Call (313)
832-2730 for information. (85.65)
4.66 students/seniors).

"Heavy" (USA - 1995). Sept.

"Heavy" (USA - 1995). Sept.

"York, an introverted and overweight pizza chef represses his ioneliness until a new waitress (Liv Tyler of "Stealing Beauty") arrives. Deborah Harry and Shelley Winters round out the supporting cast in this awardwinning independent film.
"Bonjour Tristesse" (USA - 1995). 565, §4 students, seniors and maintee; \$3 twilight)
Seberg and David Niven star as a swinging widower and his party girl daughter in this melo-

junkies, and thieves on the road to self-destruction in modern-day Edinburgh.

"American Buffalo" (USA - 1998). Dustin Hoffman and Dennis Franz star in this film adaptation of the David Mamer play about the owners of a junkyard shop who plan a rare coin heist.

"Spltfire Grill" (USA - 1996). A young woman recently released from prison finds accep-

STAR DAYLOR

tance slow in the small Maine town where she tries to get a fresh start.

Michigan Theatre 606
Liberty, Ann Arbor. Call (313)
668-8397 for information. (85; \$4 students/seniors)
"Lamerloa" (USA - 1995).
Sept. 25 - 29 (call for showtimes). A pair of men try to set up business in post-Communist Albania, with surprising results.

with surprising results.

"Ed's Next Move" (USA - romantic comedy, a Midwestern 1995). Sopt. 27 - 30 (call for guy dumped by his girlfriend showlimes). In this independent moves to Manhattan.





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