

# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

76 GRAND STREET NEW YORK NY 10013



## JD'S LESBIAN UTOPIA, 2006 DECEMBER 15 – DECEMBER 24

**76 GRAND STREET**

Le Tigre's JD Samson will be launching her new calendar "JD's Lesbian Utopia" with a fantastic installation and photography exhibit in our 76 Grand Street space.

Wrecked into the back wall of the gallery will be a life-size rainbow RV, an evocation of the vehicle JD took across America for the production of this new catalog. Video and audio will fill the space, along with collaborative works by Cass Bird, Lex Vaughn, Dusty Lombardo, and Sasha Anthome.

This summer, JD collaborated with photographer Cass Bird on a follow up to their celebrated 2003 project, "JD's Lesbian Calendar", with a new calendar entitled, "JD's Lesbian Utopia". The project was photographed over 10 days while traveling with five lesbian friends in a rented RV, visiting gay and lesbian campgrounds and RV parks in the southern United States in search of a 'Lesbian Utopia.' As they traveled across countrysides and mountains in this 30-foot vehicle with a kitchenette, they feverishly documented every moment that met them: from tubing on the hazy rivers of Georgia women's land, to frolicking in the above-ground pool oasis of a Texas gay men's ranch. JD and friends took over 2000 photos and 26 hours of video tape of both the proprietors and visitors of these intentional spaces, and of themselves, who, by traveling together so closely, were creating their own Lesbian Utopia.

The 2003 calendar, which had its opening at band mate Kathleen Hanna's Spring Street Gallery, was a triumph for Butch Lesbian visibility, a lifestyle seen very rarely in the art world. JD put her face and her body into domestic situations that the calendar medium naturally supports so that the audience was forced to look at the butch body every day of the year. It was also a commentary on JD's newfound lesbian icon status and how with this power, she was able to take activism across a boundary, through a recognizable personality, into the art world.

The 2006 Calendar focuses on community and self-segregated spaces. It is a quest for the utopic space that so many people in the lesbian and gay community are looking for. Specifically at this point in history, where many feel the gay community is losing itself. From a round table discussion in Chelsea about the fading future of the gay art world to Larry Kramer's new book titled 'The Tragedy of Today's Gays', there is a fear of losing the community and many are searching for a deeper connection and a place to be. The trick, as JD found, is you have to make it yourself.

The calendar will be available from Le Tigre Records and Touch and Go records beginning the first week of December. Opening reception to include performances by Lesbians On Ecstasy and folk singer Hollin Gammag.

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT JASMINE LEVETT AT  
212 343 7300 WWW.DEITCH.COM**