



Brian Finke's photograph "Sara, Icelandair, 2006," in his exhibition at ClampArt.

original music makes both of those celebrated bands sound positively conventional. While their peers played as hard and as fast as their testosterone allowed, the all-female Slits took the expansive pulse of reggae and laced it with amateurish singing and guitar-playing (less strumming, more scraping), paving the way for countless post-punk bands to follow.

MUSIC HALL OF WILLIAMSBURG

66 N. 6th St., Brooklyn (718-486-5400)—March 4-5: **Jonathan Richman**, a hero to romantic eccentrics the world over. In the early seventies, he and his band, the Modern Lovers, crafted an influential middle ground between the avant-garde drone of the Velvet Underground and the stentorian wallop of the Stooges. A curious change of heart, years ago, found Richman renouncing his band's blunt, burly sound, and freed him to make gentle, whimsical music. With the fearless songwriter **Vic Chesnutt**. March 6: In the late nineties, when the Hives made their debut, they seemed poised to ride the neo-garage-rock boom to global dominance. Four albums later, however, the sharply dressed band of smirking Swedes has proved itself to be something of a one-trick pony. While its latest release, "The Black and White Album," finds it stretching out a bit more stylistically, the band is sticking to its high-energy, high-voltage, high-camp attack. With the **Donnas**, a hard-rocking group of women who, when they started out, took fake names à la the Ramones. They've since dropped that shtick, without losing a beat. March 7: The Daft Punk cover band **Faux Punk**. March 11: **Quintron** and **Miss Pussycat**. With the **Black Lips** (see the Bowery Ballroom.)

TERMINAL 5

610 W. 56th St. (212-582-6600)—The **Plug Awards**, a relative newcomer to the universe of music-industry accolades, has a populist bent (fans vote online). On March 6, it celebrates its winners and nominees with performances by the fervently revered dark balladeer **Nick Cave** and his band the **Bad Seeds**, the winsome indie-pop chanteuse **St. Vincent**, the British rapper **Dizzee Rascal**, and

the earnest singer-songwriter **José González**. The comedian **Patton Oswalt** is the host. March 7: The **Hives** and the **Donnas** (see the Music Hall of Williamsburg).

WAMU THEATRE

Madison Square Garden (212-307-7171)—March 11: The Continental dance-music duo **Justice**.

WEBSTER HALL

125 E. 11th St. (212-353-1600)—March 8: **Sia**, a mellow folkie from Australia with a smoky voice, is known to some for her work with the down-tempo British electronica act **Zero 7**. Others might know her by her song "Breathe Me," which was used on the finale of the HBO series "Six Feet Under."

WORLD MUSIC INSTITUTE

March 8: The Eunice, Louisiana, native **Marc Savoy** is an accomplished accordion maker and player as well as a persuasive ambassador of Cajun culture. His **Savoy-Doucet Cajun Band**—which features his wife, **Ann**, on guitar, and the Beausoleil fiddler **Michael Doucet**—is his most successful tool (aside, perhaps, from the come-one, come-all jam sessions at his accordion factory, in southwestern Louisiana). The group mixes traditional songs and originals, with **Ann Savoy** using French dialect and earthy phrasing to capture the joys and sorrows of backcountry life. With **D. L. Menard**, who is known as the Cajun **Hank Williams**. (Symphony Space, Broadway at 95th St. For more information, call 212-545-7536.)

JAZZ AND STANDARDS

BIRDLAND

315 W. 44th St. (212-581-3080)—**Ron Carter's** promotion of the bass as a solo instrument is taken to new heights in his string-heavy nonet (here March 5-8), which features the leader on the piccolo bass, surrounded by an ensemble that includes an additional bass and three cellos. Sun-

days: **Chico O'Farrill's Afro-Cuban Jazz Orchestra**. The late arranger and bandleader O'Farrill was one of the grand architects of Afro-Cuban jazz. His son **Arturo**, who is a persuasive pianist in his own right, keeps up his dad's deft balance of steaming Latin rhythms, fervid bop improvisation, and resonant horn charts. Tuesdays: **David Berger & the Sultans of Swing**. The composer and arranger **Berger** has an ace up his sleeve. His idiomatically immaculate big band includes **Champion Fulton**, an assured vocalist with a galvanizing presence.

BLUE NOTE

131 W. 3rd St., near Sixth Ave. (212-475-8592)—March 6-9: In performance, the singer **Diane Schuur** never lacks enthusiasm or suffers from flagging spirits. Her commitment to keeping an audience's attention is as constant as her technical gifts.

CORNELIA STREET CAFÉ

29 Cornelia St. (212-989-9319)—March 8: The **Ron Horton** quartet. If you've investigated any of the super-smart live projects or recordings by the now moribund Jazz Composers Collective, then you've most likely heard the trumpeter **Horton**. A tart-toned modernist who has also graced the bands of **Jane Ira Bloom**, **Horton** will be presenting original compositions from his latest album, "Everything in a Dream."

DIZZY'S CLUB COCA-COLA

Broadway at 60th St. (212-258-9595)—March 4-9: The time-honored tradition of the tenor-saxophone battle gets the spotlight when two promising younger soloists, **Seamus Blake** and **Stacy Dillard**, go head to head, backed by the pianist **Eric Reed** and his trio.

FEINSTEIN'S AT LOEWS REGENCY

540 Park Ave., at 61st St. (212-339-4095)—March 4-15: **Tovah Feldshuh**, a dramatic actress with a flair for the comic, displays her vocal talents.

IRIDIUM

1650 Broadway, at 51st St. (212-582-2121)—March 5: The **Ed Palermo Big Band** plays the music of **Frank Zappa**. The absence of Zappa's corrosive humor and biting social critique, as well as his inventive guitar playing and conducting, is the elephant in the room, but **Palermo's** reinterpretations of the rock iconoclast's work do a persuasive job of elevating Zappa the composer. March 6-9: The **Herbie Hancock Project** salutes the ever-evolving pianist and composer (and winner of this year's Grammy for Best Album). **George Colligan** holds down the keyboard chair, while the trumpeter **Wallace Roney**, the saxophonist **Steve Wilson**, the bassist **Buster Williams**, and the drummer **Lenny White** make up the core band. They will be joined by the vibraphonist **Joe Locke**, on the 8th, and the trumpeter **Tom Harrell**, on the 9th. Mondays belong to the electric-guitar innovator **Les Paul**. The **Mingus Big Band** takes over on Tuesdays.

JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER

Broadway at 60th St. (212-721-6500)—March 7-8: The pianist **Monty Alexander**, a proud scion of Jamaica, drops by the Allen Room for a tribute to the music of the Caribbean; the program includes Trinidadian calypso and his native mento.

JAZZ STANDARD

116 E. 27th St. (212-576-2232)—March 4-5: **Judy Niemack**, a bracing presence on the vocal-jazz scene for more than thirty years, can expect particularly strong support from a band that includes the trumpeter **Don Sickler**, the pianist **Stephen Scott**, and the drummer **John Riley** among the standout players. March 6-9: Three veterans with deep experience in both mainstream and free jazz—the saxophonist **Oliver Lake**, the bassist **Reggie Workman**, and the drummer **Andrew Cyrille**—are joined by a younger but no less imaginative and unclassifiable player, the pianist **Gerri Allen**.

THE STONE

Avenue C at 2nd St. (No phone)—March 7: The inventive drummer and composer **Bobby Previte** leads his **New Bump** band, a quartet featuring **Bill Ware**, on vibes, and **Ellery Eskelin**, on saxophone. Expect music from his forthcoming album, "Set the Alarm for Monday." March 8: The in-