rage recommends by bill biss

HEAR THIS:

POWER Alex Newell

Spring fever got a hold on you? Snap out of it and spin the debut EP from Alex Newell, the breakout star from *Glee*. The selections exude a burst of fresh energy. His amazingly powerful voice conjures up the best of strength on "This Ain't Over" while an innovative ballad "Shame" sparks with the heat of a cell phone "blowing up" with the reality of consequences. "Basically Over You (B.O.Y.) is a total bitch-slap to a Spring fling gone wrong. A phenomenal five songs set to stun in the sun. **Available now.**

THIS IS WHAT THE TRUTH FEELS LIKE Gwen Stefani

Gwen Stefani describes her third solo release as the "break-up" album. Yet, *This Is What the Truth Feels Like* is not a heavy-handed sob of sounds. Stefani has always kept even the darkest of emotions brilliantly lit by an energized cascade of pop beats. With the old adage, "When one door closes, another one opens in its place," she has sparked up a fire of regrets into a mash-up of modern sounds. "Make Me Like You" rules, as she turns the page to open her heart once again. **Available March 18.**

FULL CIRCLE Haelos

A modernistic pop impression done with the utmost skill is delivered on the debut CD from Haelos. *Full Circle* is a free-flow of resonance, not only in musical quality but in the essence of both Lotti Benardout on vocals and her bandmates, Arthur Delaney and Dom Goldsmith. It's a superb grasp on the landscape of deep and soulful dance grooves with a razor edge of the blues. Start with "Oracle." Lotti's voice is at the helm and the rest of *Full Circle* will spin moodily in for entrancement.

Available March 18.



WHEN BETTE MET MAE

With no knowledge of having their conversation tape-recorded, two legends of the silver screen, Bette Davis and Mae West... meet for the first time in November of 1973. This riveting and surprisingly revealing conversation has been meticulously restored and is now re-enacted with a good match of portrayals along with a career retrospective narrated by Sally Kellerman; along with an escalation of vodka cocktails by Ms. Davis, during the evening. Listen in for an amazing and rare look at these two icons as they discuss men, Hollywood and life. **Available now.**

> SQUARE AFFAIR

SPOTLIGHT

Sexual abuse in any way is morally wrong. When it comes to the sanctified parameters of the Catholic Church to protect priests against scandal, it took an investigative team of journalists from the *Boston Globe* to uncover a massive abuse of religious misconduct. A brilliant ensemble cast of actors including Mark Ruffalo, Stanley Tucci, Michael Keaton, along with several other enthralling first-rate performances bring a tragic and shocking true-life story to the screen. *Spotlight* is a meticulous look at hypocrisy and the truth. **Available now.**

CAROL

Visually and intellectually stunning, *Carol* captures a lesbian love affair in the era of the 1950s and is an adaptation of the novel, *The Price of Salt* written by Patricia Highsmith. Exquisite and thoroughly realistic performances by Cate Blanchett as Carol and Rooney Mara as Therese, are delicate and captivating in delivery. Director Todd Haynes has once again delivered an enticing and entertaining vision of "a love that dare not speak its name" in this love story between two women of very different worlds.

Available March 15.



CARO

READ THIS:

SQUARE AFFAIR Timmothy J. Holt

When homosexuality was considered against the law, five men are discovered exploring their gay sexual side together. This discovery leads to a court case of public indecency in a small town during 1969. Timm Holt takes a realistic look back at the social stigma of men who find sexual release with other men. The repercussions of this and the forgiveness along the way matched with a strong dose of religious fever... is along the lines of *Peyton Place* or shall it be "Gayton Place" in this case. **Available now.**

TOM HOUSE: TOM OF FINLAND IN LOS ANGELES Michael Reynolds

Reynolds takes the reader inside the realm of Touko Laaksonen, known to the world for his gay erotica created as Tom of Finland. His legacy of art and sexuality is viewed from inside his home, from room-to-room, which is now the headquarters of The Tom of Finland Foundation. Authoritatively captured by photographer Martyn Thompson, this visual tour-de-force not only captures the power of his art and life but gives precedence to his vision and fantasy of homosexuality. **Available March 8.**

ROBERT MAPPLETHORPE: THEARCHIVE

Frances Terpak and Michelle Brunnick

Robert Mapplethorpe was provocative, powerful and ground-breaking in pushing the pulse of photography to a new level. His eye enveloped the lens creating a landscape of images which evoked the ever-changing textures and layers of sexuality and the human form of the 1970s and 1980s. This truly intriguing archive of his work with over 400 illustrations is an illumination of his talents and a vibrant look at some of his rarer creations of art, as well.

Available March 15.