



## NEW YORK ART GIRLS

WHEN JIMI HENDRIX'S *ELECTRIC LADYLAND* HIT SHELVES IN 1968, IT BOTH ROCKED AND SHOCKED THE WORLD. THE MUSIC was mind-blowing, but the album art, a scandalous photograph of naked women, became a legend unto itself. It perversely epitomized that stormy era—free love, sex, hair and goopy decadence. More than 30 years later, New York-based German artist Pia Dehne paid homage to those ladies in a mural-size, velveteen-style painting, which was shown at Deitch Projects in February. Calling her 9'-x-18' canvas *Naked City*, the artist replaced the original nudie beauties with 19 New York girls.

## (UN) DRESSED

"Women seem more empowered and in charge now," says Dehne. "I think their bodies reflect that. Since I came to New York I've experienced very strong friendships between women, and I think this is also a sign of our times." She says the sassy lot flaunted their tits and asses because the girl-friendly atmosphere was like a party, and not some "hear us roar" feminist rally. Each of these girls sing, dance, write, design clothes or make art. We love New York even more because of them. ★ Carol Lee



PHOTOGRAPHED BY JONATHAN RAGLE AT DRIVE-IN STUDIOS



## CAST OF CHARACTERS (DRESSED)

1. **NICOLE PINTO** is the bassist and singer for Crème Blush. Dress by Twinkle by Wenlan.

2. **LIZZY YODER** sings in Fischerspooner and is also a designer and DJ. Dress by Torrid.

3. **AMY KELLNER** is a writer, DJ, professor and dildo saleslady. Vintage shirt by Dior.

4. **MEREDITH DANLUCK** is an artist. Dress by Lorenzo Merlino.

5. **PIA DEHNE** is a painter. In fact, she's the painter of *Naked City*. Dress by Heatherette.

6. **VANESSA WALTERS** is a choreographer, dancer and performer. Shirt by Rachel Comey.

7. **NICOLE LOMBARDI** plays in Spal-

ding Rockwell. Sweater by Harmon, jeans by Abercrombie & Fitch.

8. **KATE SENNERT** is a philosopher, editor and cat lover. Dress by Twinkle by Wenlan.

9. **ERIN KRAUSE** is a painter and actor. Outfit by Gary Graham.

10. **LISA KIRK** is an artist, activist and curator. Dress by Tess Giberson.

11. **CAROL LEE** is the creative director of Papermag.com and a writer for PAPER. Outfit by United Bamboo.

12. **CINDY GREENE** is co-founder of and a designer for Libertine. Outfit by Libertine.

13. **STARR McCALEB** produces art projects for Art Production Fund. Dress by Imitation of Christ.

14. **STEPHANIE DIXON** is a dancer in Fischerspooner. Outfit by Pierrot.

15. **GLORIA MAXIMO** is a singer. Top by Charlotte, pants by Judi Rosen.

16. **GEMMA HART CORSANO** is a photographer, editor and event producer. Dress by Heatherette, jewelry by Thorn.

17. **CLAUDIA BROWN** draws and makes clothes, housewares and art. She is wearing a dress of her own design.

18. **MARY LOUISE (M.L.) PLATT** plays in Spalding Rockwell. Outfit by Harmon.

19. **GLYNNIS McDARIS** is a photographer, curator and co-editor of *Catholic*. She also throws parties and plays in Hot Lunch. Dress by Nikka, jeans by Levi's, stole by Cat Swanson.