

LAST CALL

Are You There, Courtney?

By Nick Cox

It's only been one year since Faye Orlove graduated from Emerson College with a degree in film editing, but the D.C. native and Cambridge resident has already begun to make a name for herself in the city. A graphic designer with the entire look and feel of Tavern Road, a posh new restaurant in Fort Point, on her freelance resume, Orlove is also a door-girl and bar-back at the Middle East Club, a prolific show-flyer designer, a fledgling pedicab chauffeur and - like many of Boston's most talented creatives - an erstwhile employee of the dearly-departed Boston Phoenix. She also books shows at the Middle East under the moniker "Resilient Bastard," a phrase she borrowed from a song by NYC punk band Shellshag, whom she has booked on May 9 along with their Don Giovanni Records labelmates Screaming Females and Black Wine.

Since the closure of the Phoenix left Orlove with unexpected free time, she has focused her creative efforts on a cohesive project titled *Are You There, Courtney? It's Me, Margaret*, which will open at ZuZu on Monday, May 20. And yes, the Courtney in question is Courtney Love. Scout Cambridge was intrigued and caught up with Orlove for a chat about her work, her art and the women who inspire her.

What was the first show you booked?

"You came to it! It was the [up-and-coming Northampton punk band] Potty Mouth show. Every night working here I'd yell at someone because of all the dudes on stage, so eventually they gave in and said,

'OK, fine, you book a night.' I called my four favorite bands and they all wanted to do it: Potty Mouth, Slutever, Hilly Eye and Tomboy. It was a night of all girls rocking and it ruled and I felt so good about it."

Tell me about your art show.

"I have a problem - well, I don't know if it's a problem, but ever since I was little, I idolized people. I can categorize most of my life by the people I was obsessed with. The first one was probably Posh Spice."

Naturally.

"The second one was Julia Roberts, for reasons I still can't explain. I think she just was charming to me."

Erin Brockovich-era Julia Roberts?

"Pretty Woman! I saw that on VHS, and was like, 'I probably shouldn't be watching this movie, but, wow! She's beautiful and cool and strong.'"

This is fascinating.

So Posh Spice, then Julia Roberts, then...

"Then... where did we go from there? It was probably Stevie Nicks, then Patti Smith, then Courtney Love."

There is a certain logic to that progression.

"There is! I found Stevie when I was just



Faye Orlove, aka "Resilient Bastard," at the Middle East. Her debut art show opens next door at ZuZu on May 20.

getting into music. She was beautiful and passionate and had really strong emotions, which I think I needed and still need all the time. And then Patti - queen of my heart. I don't even know where to start with her."

You don't have to.

"And then Courtney is my latest obsession. I'm having my grunge era way late. So, the show is about my idols and how I worship them and how I've denounced God since

"I'm having my grunge era way late."

I was about seven, but I still prayed to these women for help or just said, 'What would Courtney do?' or 'What would Patti

do?' The show is a shrine to everyone that's ever helped me get through stuff. It's called *Are You There, Courtney? It's Me, Margaret* because she is the only god I believe in. I tweeted at her to come to the show so hopefully she'll show up." ☺