

AM NEW YORK

Date: Sunday, November 18, 2007
Location: NEW YORK, NY
Circulation (DMA): 311,000 (1)
Type (Frequency): Newspaper (D)
Page: 22
Keyword: Jesse Malin

Malin mellows for 'Glitter'

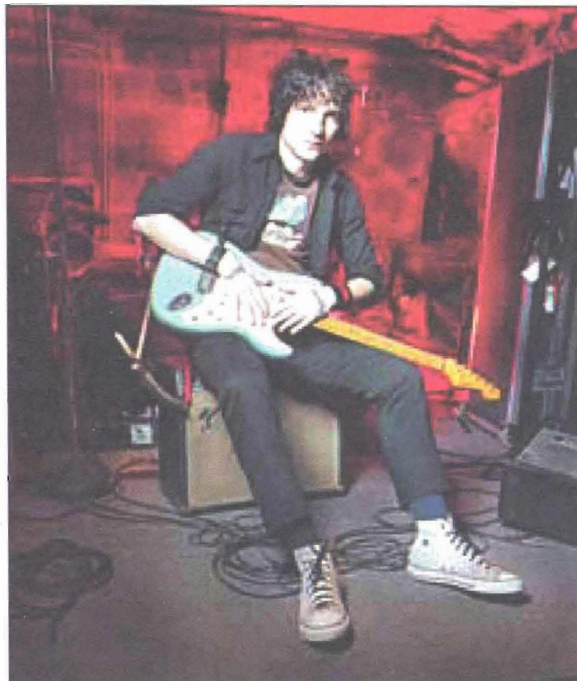
By Hal Bienstock
Special to amNewYork

After spending most of his life in New York, Jesse Malin left for L.A. to record his most recent album "Glitter in the Gutter." Unfortunately for him, it didn't take.

"I'm a big walker, and if you walk out there, they treat you like a male prostitute," he said with a laugh. "It's a lonely town. I like the energy of New York. Even as it gets gentrified, there's still Chinatown, there's still Central Park and there's still a lot of rock 'n' roll energy."

It's that energy that drives Malin's music. He started off as a punk rocker with the bands Heart Attack and D Generation, but he's been turning out roots-rock fare more akin to friends Ryan Adams and Bruce Springsteen since 2001.

"With my old groups, we'd be out touring with bands like Green Day, and the fans would just want to mosh," Malin says. "I could have been singing the phone book. After about five or six years of that, I wanted to



Jesse Malin drops the punk attitude for positivity.

strip it down and have it be about the songs, not the pants and shoes or the mosh pit."

Malin's first two solo albums consisted mostly of what he describes as "cry in your beer" breakup songs.

For "Glitter," he tried to deliver a more hopeful message.

"The climate in America is filled with negativity after eight years of Bush, the war and global warming," he said. "I wanted to write

On stage

- Saturday, 8 p.m., at Bowery Ballroom
- \$16
- With The Dirty Pearls
- 6 Delancey St at Bowery (J, M to Bowery; B, D to Grand St) 212-533-2111
- boweryballroom.com

something that's more of a celebration of being in the moment, something that's hopeful yet defiant and questioning of the powers that be."

Malin's goal of celebrating the moment extends to his concerts, which can find him singing from the balcony or sitting on the floor with fans in order to break down the wall between fan and performer.

"The live experience should take it to another level in terms of volume, sweat and interaction with the audience," say Malin. "It sucks sleeping in dirty rooms and eating at Subway. It's those 90 minutes on stage that get us through the day."