

Warped Tour

All hail the queen

■ Fierce talk with Internet sensation Jeffree Star, one of Warped Tour's biggest, brashest personalities

By *Joey Guerra* | POP MUSIC WRITER

IF you haven't heard of Jeffree Star, don't blame him. The 6-foot "queen of the internet" is exactly that — a larger-than-life presence that lords over MySpace, YouTube (and now Twitter) with flawless makeup and a fierce attitude. Catch up.

Star, 22, has worked as a makeup artist for Kelly Osbourne and Paris Hilton, dabbled in modeling and even designed a successful line of clothes for Hot Topic stores. Now, after a pair of EPs and a string of explicit singles, Star is taking the full dive into music with *Beauty Killer*, a full-length disc due in September. But this is no bedroom affair. It includes production work from Lester Mendez (Shakira, Jessica Simpson, Nelly Furtado), Luke Walker (Alkaline Trio, Elliott Yamin) and 3OH!3's Nathaniel Motte.

Amid preparations for his stint on the Vans Warped Tour — and tending to a fractured elbow — Star let loose on everything from O.C. folk (hates them) to Disney princess Demi Lovato (loves her):

Q: How are you?

A: I'm pregnant. I saw you on Twitter today. There were no naked pictures of you.

Q: We'll leave that for when you're in town.

A: Right? (Laughs.) I love it.

Q: Where are you calling from today?

A: Alaska. I actually live in North Hollywood, in the arts district.

Q: Your first full-length album, *Beauty Killer* is out Sept. 1. How's that coming?

A: (I just finished) last night at five in the morning. I've just done EPs before. I was testing the waters, musically, because I didn't really know

what I wanted to do with my career. This time around, I kind of embraced a lot of rock elements, mixed it with dance and kind of made something really unique that no one's ever heard before.

Q: *Prisoner*, the first single, has already racked up more than 4 million hits at myspace.com/jeffreestar.

A: I've just never really made music that I guess I've been 100-percent proud of, you know? It was time for me to take myself more seriously. It's like my big, 'How are you?' to the world.

Q: Did the higher stakes put on any added pressure?

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Jeffree Star

A: No — I just wanted to try harder. Everyone's so used to the electro, Peaches-type ... stuff. I've grown up. I'm not 18 years old anymore.

Q: Your celebrity was built around MySpace, YouTube and now Twitter. Do you feel the pressure to keep up with all of them?

A: I only feel pressure to keep up my quota of sleeping with men every week.

Q: How does the Warped crowd take to Jeffree Star?

A: I'm basically like the Lindsay Lohan of Warped Tour. Everywhere I go, there's always like a million people following me. It's really positive, and it's really fun.

Q: What are some must-haves on the road?

A: I need my MAC Cosmetics Studio Fix, so I look flawless. I have three phones to keep up with all the guys I talk to. And I need my MacBook Pro.

Q: Were cross-country tours and studio albums ever part of the Jeffree Star mentality?

A: I actually had no idea I'd ever tour or do CDs. I did a few songs as a joke and put them on my MySpace, and they got a huge reaction. Everyone wanted it. I

was like, 'Oh, wow, I guess I better take it serious.'

Q: You recently did an R-rated cover of the Black Eyed Peas' Boom Boom Pow. Is that on your album?

A: ... I just put it out for free download on my MySpace page. I actually have a few more (covers) I haven't released yet. Everyone's like, 'I hate this song,' but it's been the No. 1 song for 11 weeks, so someone must like it.

Q: Is there an influence or icon that shaped your look, style, attitude?

A: I think living in Orange County and being surrounded by a bunch of fake, tan, stupid people inspired me not to be that way. I was always really into fashion magazines, and my mom used to be a model. I was intrigued that you could put on makeup and be someone who you're not.

Q: You've become fast friends with Demi Lovato over Twitter. How

did that friendship come about?

A: I took her to see *The Hangover* a week ago. She was hanging out with a few of my band members, and she called me from one of their phones. She was like, 'I'm a really big fan.' I was like, 'What? I'm obsessed with you. Let's hang out.' Her mom loves me. I'm going to her Houston show (July 3 at Reliant Arena).

Q: What comes to mind when you think of Houston?

A: I went to the mall there, and I threw a drink on someone.

Q: Was this on purpose or accidentally?

A: Oh, it's always on purpose. Some girl was talking (expletive) about me, so I threw my soda on her and told her to have a *great* day.

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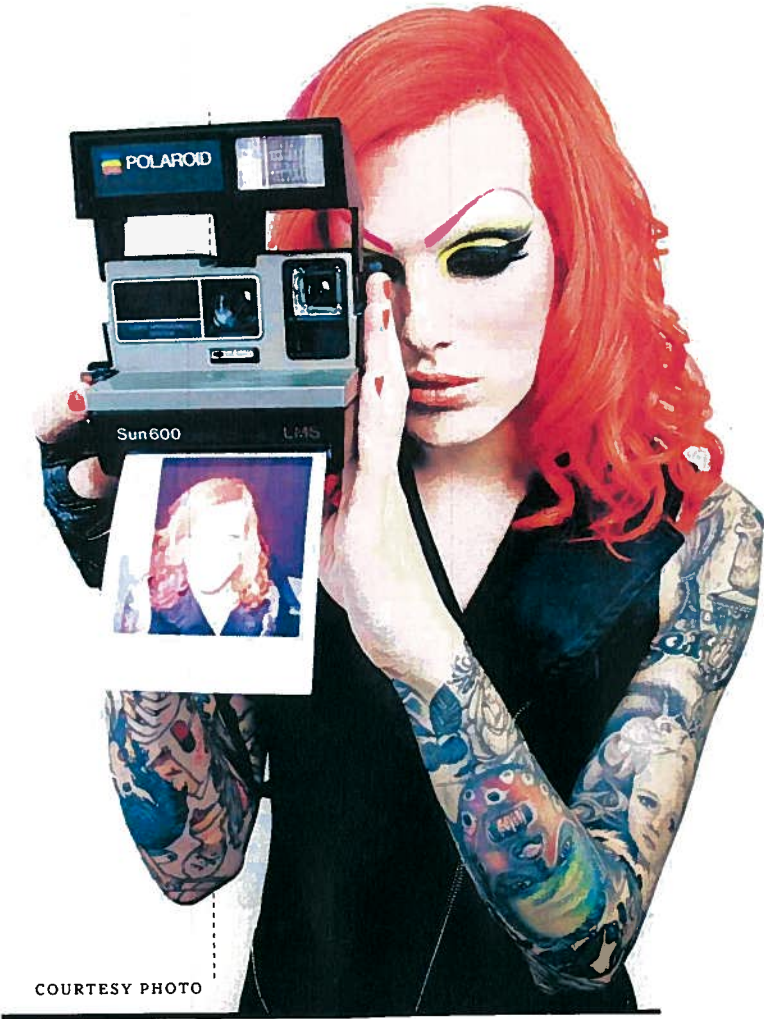
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- **When:** 11 a.m. Friday
- **What:** Vans Warped Tour
- **Where:** Sam Houston Race Park, 7575 N. Sam Houston Parkway W.
- **Tickets:** \$32.98 advance, \$40 at the door; theshowgrounds.com or 800-211-3381

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