

PLAYBOY

ENTERTAINMENT FOR

APRIL 2014



INTERVIEW:
STAN LEE

THE ULTIMATE
PLAYLIST FOR SEX

NSFW: THE 20
RAUNCHIEST SONGS
EVER WRITTEN

UNDERGROUND
SYRIAN RADIO

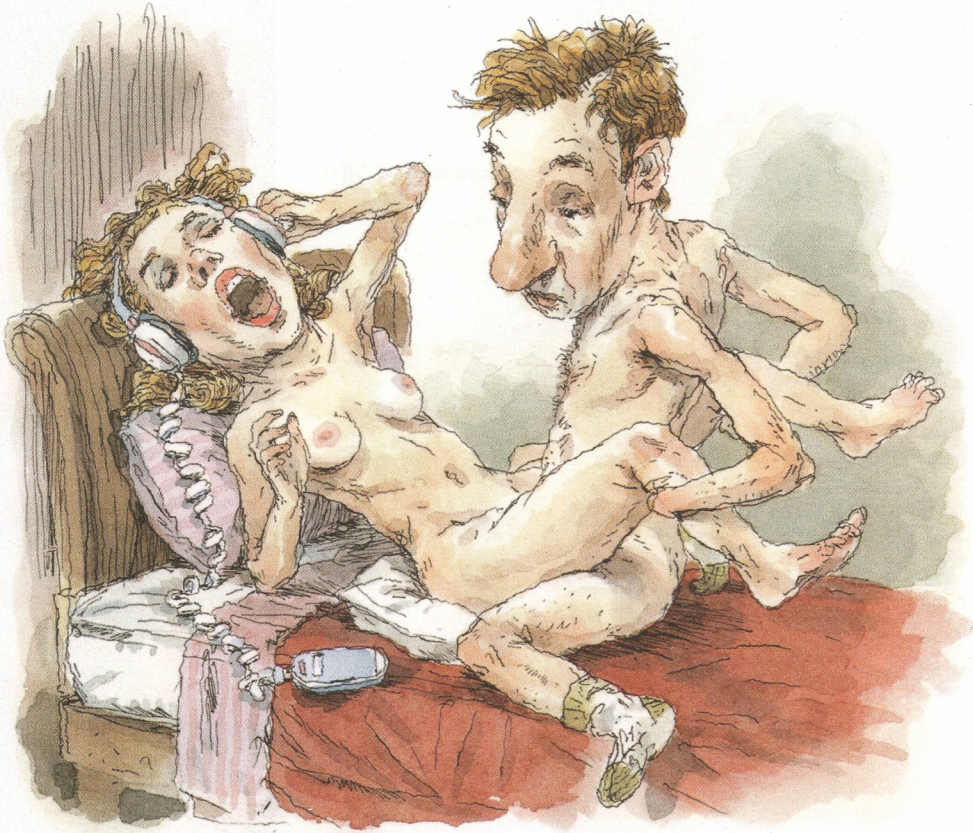
HOW TO BE A DJ

IGGY POP 20Q

+

KURT VILE
CHIEF KEEF
AFROJACK

Sex & Music Issue



PASSION PLAY

STUDIES SHOW MUSIC IS ONE OF THE BEST WAYS TO SET THE MOOD. SO WHY ARE MEN SO BAD AT IT? ONE WOMAN'S PLEA FOR BETTER PLAYLISTS

I was sprawled out on Nate's bed, waiting for the music to start. We had spent most of the night talking about music, and I was anxious to hear what he would select before slipping back into bed next to me. Suddenly Journey's "Separate Ways" boomed from the speakers. By the time Steve Perry belted out, "Someday love will find you," I was no longer in the mood. Then "Pour Some Sugar on Me" came on. Had Nate confused his wacky 1980s mix with his sexy-time mix?

Unsurprisingly, we didn't last. Nate—and his flaccid taste in music—simply didn't spark any fire in my loins.

"Wonderwall" was the song playing when I lost my virginity, "Skinny Love" when I had outrageous make-up sex, the raunchy "Rocket Queen" when I had quickie car sex. Music set the mood for what was to come: warm and tender lovin' or knockdown, drag-out screwing. Would I have enjoyed the experience without the music? Yes. Did I enjoy it more with the music? Definitely.

Music can transform an ordinary sexual experience into a mind-blowing one. Set the right tone and I'll melt in your arms. Screw it up and I'll call it a night. In a study conducted by Spotify, more than 40 percent of people reported that music played a larger role in sexual arousal than their partner's touch. That means nearly half the time you think it's your magic tongue, it may just be Usher who's getting her hot.

"Music releases oxytocin, the same chemical released during orgasm," explains Daniel Levitin, professor of behavioral neuroscience at McGill University and author of *The World in Six Songs: How the Musical Brain Created Human Nature*. So what's the best way to combine music and sex? "Women prefer music that's sensual as opposed to raunchy. They want assurances that their man loves them. But if they're looking to hook up, it's different. Music that has the tempo of humping is more likely to get a woman excited." In other words, music plus sex equals pleasure squared.

That doesn't mean you have a license to build an iTunes playlist of every sex song ever recorded. However, it couldn't hurt to have a few sultry playlists for varying tastes ready at a moment's notice. "Women have a script about what they're looking for," says Levitin. "So the best thing a man can do to tilt the odds in his favor is alter the woman's mood." Listen up, guys. We sure are.—Rachel Khona

ILLUSTRATION BY JOHN CUNELO



LIGHTEN UP

OUR FAVORITE NEW LAMP DESIGNER DOES IT WITH THE LIGHTS ON

→ Get turned on to Keir O'Donnell, an L.A.-based actor and designer whose lamps capture miniatures in the heat of the moment. "For a lot of people sex is still inherently taboo. The idea that it should remain behind closed doors is something I wanted to challenge," he says. These and less risqué versions are available for \$200 to \$350 at FreshBuries.com.