

For The Record ROMANCE AT THE ROXY Micheale Jordana (Attic CBS)

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For me The Poles will never die. Never. Never. Never," emphasizes artist-singer and confirmed member of the punk vanguard **Micheale Jordana**, 29, who surfaced in late 1977 as a Pole and is now on the loose as herself. Born **Micheale Berman**, Jordana studied art and piano in Winnipeg before moving to Toronto, where she took a variety of jobs from waitressing to window dressing. Painting followed, and under the influence of an Arctic expedition Jordana produced canvas visions of Inuit life, ice and whales. With the release of her album *Romance at the Roxy*, Jordana hopes to make her impact felt outside punk and art circles. Pink from aubergine and bordeaux-colored tints, her hair is kinked and matted in a manner she considers reminiscent of Hungarian sheep dogs. "Women in rock 'n' roll are like the women in the movies in the late 1940s," she explains. "You've got to be able to sing, to write and you got to be able to look good."



Jordana: 'The Poles will never die'

Something defiant and declamatory about Jordana's vocals inspires comparison to Patti Smith, but there is also a naïve toughness that, at least remotely echoes Ronnie Spector. The heroine who becomes queen of the *Cannibal Kids*, after all, is named Lisa. Nevertheless, on her debut album, the former lead singer of The Poles (two members remain in the four-piece backup band, most notably keyboard whiz and animating force, Douglas Pringle) projects a kind of bold girlishness all her own. From the danceable opening of the title cut, through a heavy-metal cover of Alice Cooper's *I'm Eighteen*, a progressive rockabilly original called *Hologram Man (Jim Jimmy)*, to the immortal *C.N. Tower* (a remix of The Poles' single), she traces a dramatic passage from moony innocence to high-voltage assertiveness. Outstanding cuts include *X-Ray Robot*, familiar to her followers, and a new song—*I'll Do What You Want (But I'll Do It My Way)*—a characteristic sentiment mixed with a beguilingly primitive beat. **David Livingstone**