

Diamanda Galás



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GUILTY GUILTY GUILTY

[MUTE]

Demonic diva in the mood for love

SOME people, of course, would say it with flowers. Then, some people aren't Diamanda Galás. With a career spanning over a quarter of a century, this San Diego vocalist extraordinaire has shown little sign of flagging and even less sense of compromise. *Guilty Guilty Guilty* might've been recorded live on Valentine's Day at New York's Knitting Factory, but that's as far as any notions of romance go. Diamanda would rather tear your heart out and stamp it underfoot with these tributes to failed, destroyed love. Armed with just a piano and her staggering three-and-a-half octave voice, it's a concept she executes with the kind of visceral, bloody intensity few metal acts can lay claim to. It won't bother your stereo too regularly, but as a testament to extreme, exhilarating expression, it's worth braving. Slayer fans, she'll have you... [7]

CATHERINE YATES