

## CD Reviews

By Chris Twomey

**Diamanda Galas**  
**Guilty Guilty Guilty**  
**Mute/Caroline/FAB**

The incredible singer Diamanda Galas came out of the avant-garde but her roots are in jazz. So when she applies her operatic, extended vocal techniques to a standard such as "Autumn Leaves" the result is remarkable. This new disc (her 17th!) is an incredible collection of tragic love songs interpreted as only Diamanda can. Recorded live at the appropriately-titled Valentines Day Massacre event at the Knitting Factory in February of 2006, the piano and voice set digs deep into the American songbook to mine new veins from classics such as Ralph Stanley's Appalachian dirge "O Death" and Lefty Frizzell's haunting hit "Long Black Veil." Diamanda's range and intensity is truly overwhelming, and even the quieter moments with material performed by Edith Piaf and Timi Yuro are spellbinding. She'll be performing these songs in Europe in May so if you are in the neighborhood don't miss it!

