


## MAX MARTINI'S CD REVIEWS

Max has been hoarding a stack of CDs for awhile. We decided to list Max's reviews from sober to staggering. Enjoy or avoid – it's up to you!



**Max Martini's Rating Scale:**

- 0 Martinis – "No need – it's that good!"
- 1 Martini – "What the hell – just one!"
- 2 Martinis – "Oh yeah – that's better!"
- 3 Martinis – "You'll need 'em!"
- 4 Martinis – "Wake me up when it's over!"

**"Party Groove: Gay Days Volume 2" - Various Artists (mixed by DJ Randy Bettis)**  
[Centaur Entertainment]  
Sound bytes & ordering: [www.centaurmusic.com](http://www.centaurmusic.com)

As we move through the Pride season, *Party Groove: GayDays Volume 2* is simply a must-have. As DJ Randy Bettis puts it, "The intention of my choices was to give expression to the special magic created during GayDays. I have crafted this continuous mix to get you up and get you on your way smiling. And if you break out dancing, my dreams have come true!" Well Randy – Max is definitely dancing and smiling! **0 Martinis**

**"Ready" - Allison Tartalia**  
[Make Haste! Records]  
Sound bytes & ordering: [www.allisontartalia.com](http://www.allisontartalia.com)

After you hear Allison Tartalia's *Ready*, you'll not be surprised at the adjectives being used to describe her: powerful, expressive, quirky, sultry, more jazzy than folky, and edgy. She is also being compared to the likes of Laura Nyro, Ricki Lee Jones, and Sophie B. Hawkins. Not only is Allison an amazing singer/performer, she has an extraordinary and original flair for songwriting. Allison received the 2003 Outmusic Award for Outstanding Debut Recording Female and was nominated for

Outstanding Producer. "We're absolutely fabulous when we've got our groove on. There's absolutely nothing wrong with being absolutely fabulous" she says – and Allison is absolutely fabulous so give her a listen. **1 Martini**

**"Africanism III" Various Artists (mixed by Bob Sinclair)**  
[Tommy Boy Entertainment]  
Sound bytes & ordering: [www.tommyboy.com](http://www.tommyboy.com)

Looking to expand your world music CD collection? If so you might give this a spin. The CD is a fusion of African musical styles including Afrobeat, Calypso, Highlife, Juju, Soca, Toasting, and Zouk. "Africanism III" is definitely a commendable homage to some of the best African musicians on the planet and will make you want "Zookey" (lift your leg up). **1 Martini**

**"Party Groove: Fireball Volume 3" - Various Artists (mixed by DJ Paulo)**  
[Centaur Entertainment]  
Sound bytes & ordering: [www.centaurmusic.com](http://www.centaurmusic.com)

If you're looking for something that makes you hot, wet, and keeps you pumped up, this is for you. This is high-powered tribal dance music with drums, diva anthems, and more drums. The continuous mix captures your attention from the start with Michael C's "Feelings" and closes with Paulo's previously unreleased mix of Shelia Brody's "U Ain't That Good" – leaving you exhausted but satisfied. The CDs benefit Chicago's Hearts Foundation ([www.thefireball.com](http://www.thefireball.com)). **1 Martini**

**"Soulmates" Rene**  
[Polyphony Music]  
Sound bytes & ordering: [www.renemusiconline.com](http://www.renemusiconline.com)

Max's Take: You'll recognize many of the pieces on this CD – Rene's fourth on his own label – and there is a good mix of the classical ("Claire de Lune"), movie ("Somewhere in Time"), Broadway ("The Music of the Night"), and traditional ("Amazing Grace"). Rene's original arrangements ("Love for all Seasons" and "Anam Cara" (soulmates)) are creative and seamlessly woven into the other pieces. This is definitely mood music for all those romantics out there. If it sounds like shmaltz to you, give it a pass. **2 Martinis**

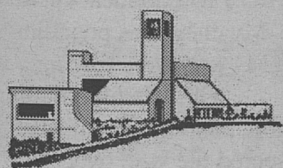
**"Twilight Trax" Various Artists (mixed by Steve Yanko)**  
[Trax Records]  
Sound bytes & ordering: [www.traxrecords.com](http://www.traxrecords.com)

If you are into the House music scene, "Twilight Trax" has a good mix of the classics (Mr. Fingers' "Can You Feel It" and Ron Hardy's "Liquid Love"), along with previously unreleased grooves (Screamin' Rachel's "Just Want to Make Love" and Master C&J's "It Will Make You Happy"). Slide it into your CD player at your next cocktail party (rooftop optional) or if you're like Max – for your long commute. **2 Martinis**

**"Brasil" Salome de Bahia**  
[Tommy Boy Entertainment]  
Sound bytes & ordering: [www.tommyboy.com](http://www.tommyboy.com)

Max's Take: Ever heard "Copacabana" in Portuguese? Neither had I until checking out *Brasil*. Parisian producer, Bob Sinclair (Yellow Productions Recordings), and Tommy Boy Entertainment are introducing North America to Salome de Bahia in August 2005. From the Bahia region of Brazil, Salome de Bahia has been making records since 1958 and was the star of *Brazil Tropical* – a musical review, which featured forty musicians, singers, and dancers led by bandleader Edvaldo Carneiro. As interesting as hearing "Copacabana" is, this CD won't be appealing to everyone. **3 Martinis ▼**

Max is willing to try anything once, does enjoy an occasional martini or two, but prefers Tab @!



### Pride Choral Evensong

Saturday, July 9, 3:30 pm • Cathedral Church of St. Paul  
2 Cherry Street (at Battery Street), Burlington

- Officiant: The Rt. Rev. Thomas C. Ely, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Vermont
- Preacher: The Rev. Canon Tanya R. Wallace, Canon Educator, Cathedral Church of St. Paul
- Music: Works of Thomas Tallis, psalmody sung to traditional Anglican chant, and congregational hymns

For more information contact us at 802.864.0471 or [www.stpaulscathedralvt.org](http://www.stpaulscathedralvt.org).

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