



The coolest new talent on the music scene— from London to the Broadway stage. Photographed by David Bailey.

LILY ALLEN "There's a part of me that wishes I'd joined a band," Lily Allen admits. It's a slightly shocking sentiment coming, as it does, from a girl who has spent the better part of the last six months sitting pretty atop the British pop charts. But then—as anyone who's ever listened to Lily's lyrics can attest—the 21-year-old singer's ability to surprise is a crucial part of her considerable charm. ("Smile," her sunshiny, ska-inflected first single, sounds like a love song, but with lines like, "When I see you cry ... it makes me smile," it's actually a bitter kiss-off to a cheating ex-boyfriend.) Her album, *Alright, Still*, goes on sale Stateside this month, and the good news, as Lily knows, is that it's not always lonely at the top: Asked which musicians she'd most like to collaborate with, she's quick to cite a certain recently unretired rapper. "Jay-Z," she says with a giggle. "I'd love it if Jigga called me up." —LAUREN WATERMAN

LONDON LASS

LILY, WHO'S KNOWN FOR HER ECLECTIC MIX OF VINTAGE AND NEW STYLES, AT HER ALBUM LAUNCH PARTY IN LONDON. OPPOSITE: FREEDOM AT TOPSHOP EARRINGS. DETAILS, SEE IN THIS ISSUE. FASHION EDITOR: LEITH CLARK.

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FEBRUARY 2007



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