

FEATURES

- ✕ [Concert: Devendra Banhart](#)
- ✕ [Concert: Animal Collective & Black Dice](#)
- ✕ [Interview: Matt Pond PA](#)
- ✕ [Interview: The Race](#)
- ✕ [Interview: Grand Buffet](#)
- ✕ [Past Features](#)

MOVIE/MUSICAL REVIEWS

- ✕ [Wordplay](#)
- ✕ [The Break-Up](#)
- ✕ [Oscar Nominations Announcement Reaction/Year in Film Review](#)
- ✕ [Neil Young: Heart of Gold](#)
- ✕ [Grizzly Man](#)
- ✕ [Oldboy](#)
- ✕ [Spamalot](#)
- ✕ [Before Sunset](#)
- ✕ [Voices of Iraq](#)
- ✕ [Moog](#)
- ✕ [Donnie Darko: The Director's Cut](#)
- ✕ [Coffee and Cigarettes](#)
- ✕ [Kill Bill](#)
- ✕ [Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind](#)
- ✕ [Uzak](#)
- ✕ [My Architect](#)
- ✕ [Etre et Avoir](#)
- ✕ [The Cooler](#)

MUSIC REVIEWS

- ✕ [Barbara Trentalange](#)
- ✕ [Polly Panic](#)
- ✕ [Niobe](#)
- ✕ [Bridges and Powerlines](#)
- ✕ [The Lovely Sparrows](#)
- ✕ [Colour Revolt](#)
- ✕ [Patrick Porter](#)
- ✕ [Christine Fellows](#)

Home : Music Reviews : P



Polly Panic *Painkiller*

Greyday Productions

The main selling points: Rochester, New York seeds rock music from classically trained cellist. I call this record a noble premise, questionably carried because the piece never emerges from the musical darkness.

Jenette Mackie employs dissonant techniques including harmonics and de-tuned vocals (listen to the beginning of "Acid Rain"). The combination of Jenette's vocals and her cello yield jolting, tumultuous, and pained melodies.

Musical categories would place this music somewhere between emo and grunge, made enigmatic by the cello and the female vocals. I can't say I'm a huge fan of this genre combination, but if you like occasionally violent, usually monotonous music, you may already be a fan.

References to Silvia Plath occur on the track "Plathian Fashions" and her tonality generally abounds. More than once in the course of the album's trajectory, the oppressive tones of a Victorian novel emerges, enhanced by the anachronism of the cello. I think the best quality of the record is its lyrically academic leanings.

I'll recommend *Painkiller* to anyone who likes dark lyrics and is interested in testing the limits of the cello in rock music.

-Erik Stinson

✕ [Podcast](#)

✕ [Links](#)

[Ads by Google](#)

Ann Arbor Music Center

Guitar, Bass,
Drums, Piano, Sax
Rock and Jazz
Band Classes
www.a2musiccenter.com

CONTACT

E-mail:
phill@thephiller.com

AIM:
thephillerdotcom

NEW Postal:
PO Box 1345
Issaquah, WA 98027

- ✕ [The Heartstring Band](#)
- ✕ [Hi Red Center](#)
- ✕ [ActionReaction](#)
- ✕ [The New Sound of Numbers](#)
- ✕ [Dark Meat](#)
- ✕ [Kultur Shock](#)
- ✕ [The Black Neon](#)
- ✕ [More Reviews](#)