

FEAT: INDIGENOUS REALITY

BLU

Issue #6 vol. 1

\$5 us; \$7.95 can; £3 uk

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"All the Blues
That's Fit to Print"

The New York Crimes

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NEW YORK, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1999

BL beyond the greater New York metropolitan area

BLU MAGAZINE IS EVERYWHERE

Black Star Calls BLU "Dope Magazine", Says "Pick It Up"

From London to Oakland, people are tuning in to the underground phenomenon that happens every two months: a new issue of BLU. BLU is the multimedia force that unites all the energy of hip hop in the rules-breaking package of a CD plus a magazine. The content of BLU is as varied as the culture—rap, spoken word, visual arts, writing, poetry, and reporting are represented—but the unifying focus is on spirituality and revolution.

A long list of celebs and cultural icons are talking about BLU. Chuck D, who did an interview in BLU 5, has been giving love. Hélène of Les Nubians says, "Long life to BLU magazine!" Numerous political prisoners including *Continued On Page D12*



Photographs by Alessandra Ginzer

Yesterday's freak happening at Houston and Broadway. Authorities are still bewildered.

Big Blu Pig Thing Walks Down Broadway

by JOHN VELOUR

MANHATTAN, Dec 16th — Several people sighted a large mechanical-looking pig walking down Broadway. Rudi Ghouliani stated later that he favors locking up all mechanical pigs just like homeless people. "Pigs are for the farm and force! It ruins the quality of life to have large pigs tramping around our fine city." Perhaps the Mayor feels that if everyone were locked up the quality of life might improve. The FBI is investigating the "pig" for possible revolutionary connections, while the Feds think it may be in some way linked to the recent appearance of a new underground magazine called BLU. These allegations have yet to be confirmed or denied by Mr. Ayala, BLU's Editor in Chief. Greenmarket vendors at Houston and Broadway just shrugged it off: "This is New York. We see weirder stuff all day every day." Other reactions include a, "Way cool man, but like I haven't done acid in years!" from Mr John Tripps, and, "But I thought swine were, you know, unclean! This pig went bling bling." *Continued On Page B5*

BLU STREET TEAMS STICKER THE NATION

BLU SEEN AS A MONEYMAKER

Are they entrepreneurs, or a sinister force out of control? BLU street teams are a new phenom in urban centers across the nation. Street team activities include covering shows, talking to artists on behalf of the magazine, putting out promo stuff, and selling mags. "I got backstage for free because of BLU!" says Lili Rakot of New Orleans, who also reported being supplied with stickers, stencils, and promo gear from BLU's HQ in New Paltz. Many people are also making money by buying ten or more copies of the magazine with the CD for \$2.50 each and reselling for \$5. This profit margin makes BLU a good fund raiser and a lucrative source of extra dough. Interested parties should call BLU magazine at 1-800-778-8461.



BLU's Staff Turns Down Prez's Plea to be in BLU

"BUT I FREED THE PUERTO RICANS!
... well, some of them..."

WASHINGTON DC, Dec 18th — In a recent press conference BLU's design editor told Mr. Clinton exactly what he could do with himself, however it is not "news that's fit to print." This was in response to Prez Bill's pleas to be in BLU in an effort to bolster his wife, Hillary's, credibility with the hip hop underground.

Pete Weeks has been reported to have said "Even if he liberated the whole island, Bill would get no love from our pages." Other BLU staff snickered *Continued On Page A35*

WWW.BLUMAGAZINE.NET

"This Site Is Bananas" Raves Red-Eyed User

People clicking around the net are finding themselves drawn to a dope new website, www.blumagazine.net. The site is getting the mad hits for audio clips from the BLU CD as well as its content. There are articles from previous issues of BLU on topics like police brutality, the Young Lords, political prisoners, Chiapas, culture as revolution, and more. In addition to essential books, music, and gear (including the acclaimed B-Boy Jeans), the online store makes backissues of BLU available, although this may change soon as they are in high demand.

For the uninitiated, BLU is a new grassroots magazine that is committed to revolution, spirituality, and culture. Every issue comes with a compilation CD that pushes seventy minutes of the best urban and roots music. A Special Investigator hired by a conservative think-tank to answer the question, "Where else can you get all this for \$5?" reports that there's nothing comparable anywhere for any price, but cautions that prolonged use can lead to radical shifts in *Continued On Page A20*