

CULTUR



M. WARD Transistor Radio (Merge)

If the hipsters currently blowing their grocery money on freak-folk troubadour Devendra Banhart's beard clippings can make a star out of a dude who sings about insect eyes, surely there's hope that Portland, Oregon-based singer-songwriter M. Ward can at least make a decent wage as a musician. On his fourth album, *Transistor Radio*, Ward indulges in some of the faux-outsider eccentricity Banhart offers, as in "Four Hours in Washington," where he worries over a late-night wind in the willows. But mostly he sings roaming-young-man blues about turning up the hi-fi and wanting peace of mind. A longtime fave of indie types like Cat Power—last year he gigged as Conor Oberst's guitarist in Bright Eyes—Ward is also in some well-placed favors throughout *Radio*: My Morning Jacket frontman Jim James contributes country-rock strums to "Fuel for Fire," Giant Sand's Howe Gelb plays piano, and Jenny Lewis of Rilo Kiley sweetens the joyous clang of "Big Boat." And he staves off alt-folk monotony by peppering his tunes with subtle nods to the unexpected: a Beach Boys tune, something by Bach, a bit of *Swan Lake*. Because he's so natural, Ward might be easy to miss. Seek him out. MIKAEL WOOD

ful photograph themselves —in front of the Acropolis in Athens, even—and submit the evidence to the project's website (thegreysweatsuitrevolution.com). Ironically, their anti-fashion statement has become a craze all its own. Although they aren't wearing their gear full-time any more, Stewart and Wilkinson (who says, of his time spent alternating between three identical sweatshirts, "I felt naked and vulnerable") still can't help but occasionally slip into team spirit—who can resist the sweatshirt's simplicity and comfort?—and plan to bring documentation of their experiment to galleries in the U.S. this spring. JENNIFER LEONARD

ART ATTACK:

The Grey Sweatshirt Revolution

Artists Jeremy Stewart, 26, and Simon Wilkinson, 24, want you to stop and think about what your clothes say about you. Last year, the satirical duo masterminded The Grey Sweatshirt Revolution—a movement that, according to their manifesto, constituted an experiment "in personal and social expression via the limitation of one's superficial identity to a grey sweatshirt for an extended period of time." The project was simple: Wear the same shit every day. In Stewart and Wilkinson's opinion, fashion is a game even the über-hip can't win. Just when you think you're ahead of the trends, your self-styled looks are quickly appropriated by the mainstream. So, for the duration of spring 2004, the pair attempted to subvert the system—they selected gray sweats as their no-logo, no-affiliation uniform and asked others to join in. They hosted parties (in Toronto, where they're based, and Halifax, Nova Scotia), and participated in collaborative art shows (where they walked the crowd through a tongue-in-cheek Power Point presentation about leisure wear). They continue to receive support from kindred spirits clad in sloppy sweats the world over. The faith-

EYE IN THE SKY

The days of advance-purchase, Saturday-night-required stays, and exorbitant fares are coming to an end as the battle for commercial air travel rages on. New York City-based Jet Blue has already taken serious leap ahead of the competition by introducing a new line of entertainment choices. The first airline to offer DIRECTV in every seat back, Jet Blue has now taken its in-flight programming from 2 channels to an unprecedented 36 channels of crystal clear, completely free, satellite television. In addition to having the likes of MTV, Comedy Central, FX, SciFi, and about a million different ESPN at your fingertips, Jet Blue is also introducing Fox In-Flight Premium Entertainment. For a small fee, you'll have access to a three-hour block of programming highlighting current films from 20th Century Fox, Fox Searchlight and Fox 2000, as well as a library of more than 1,000 titles (this month, you can catch David O. Russell's *I Heart Huckabees* while you sit comfortably thousands of miles above your couch). The pay-per-view system will also feature exclusive star interviews, behind-the-scenes short features, and sneak previews of upcoming Fox movies. Jet Blue hopes to have updated its entire fleet with the new entertainment options (which, by the way, will also feature up to 100 channels of coast-to-coast XM Satellite Radio, free of charge) by April. CELIA ELLENBERG

For more information or to make reservations, see jetblue.com or call 800.JETBLUE.

DRINK OF THE MONTH KING KOZMO

40Z. THE MARGARITA KING COCKTAIL MIX (AVAILABLE AT WWW.THEMARGARITAKING.COM)
10Z. CHAMBORD
SPLASH OF CRANBERRY JUICE

Combine ingredients in a cocktail shaker. Shake, and serve in a martini glass.

