

by Anita M. Samuels

Bassist/vocalist Me'Shell NdegéOcello (N-day-gay-O-chello) looks about as "regular" as you or I. Today she's laid back and casual in a black, baby T, comfortable jeans and those cute little flip-flop sandals one wears to the beach. Don't look for any hint of pretentiousness here; Me'Shell is as down-to-earth as her attire. And don't mistake her soft-spokenness as a sign of weakness, because what comes out of her mouth packs a powerful punch — for those of us who are in dire need of a serious reality check.



First off, Me'Shell refuses to become part of what she considers a "commodi-sized" culture. "That's probably why I didn't want to make another record," says the 30-year-old modern-day ingénue. "I'm just not into doing it. I'm not fitting into it. It's just not gonna happen."