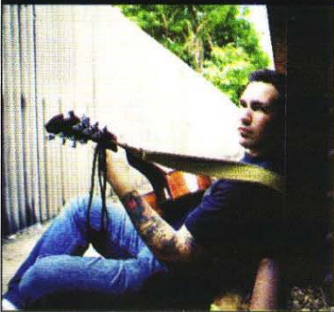


# Out

## KEY TO THE HIGHWAY **GAY FOLK-ROCKER ERIC HIMAN IS THE ANTI-ROAD WARRIOR.**



At first glance, you'd think Eric Himan is the type of guy who yields to the self-indulgent madness of life as a touring musician, a wanton existence marked by bedpost notches, trashed hotel rooms, and a long trail of beer-bathed plastic cups. With his sly grin and a flashy canvas of tattoos on his arms, the Tulsa, Okla.-based queer folk-rocker also seems like the type of guy who wouldn't hesitate to kick your ass.

But as he hits the highway again this summer in support of his new album, *Resonate*, Himan confesses that he's

hopelessly mellow. When not performing songs about our culture's obsession with fame and conformity ("For Me"), gay rights ("Protest Song"), and the journey of a transgender boy ("Little Boy Blue"), Himan—who has a partner back home—spends his time honing his board game skills.

"People expect that because you're a rock star, you must have alcohol and cigarettes, and your car must be full of old pieces of everything," he says, laughing. "And then I open up my trunk and 'Look, it's Operation!'" **CORY ALBERTSON**