

INTERVIEW SEPTEMBER 2000

MUSIC TIP



NICKY LOVE BY DUDLEY SAUNDERS

HONEY OF A VOICE

Nicky Love has the California-blond beauty and girlishly feathered voice of a sweet teen star, but she's not a teen and what she's singing on her imaginative DreamWorks debut, *Honeyvision*, isn't sweet. While a few of her R&B-fueled pop songs are aimed squarely at America's Britney-obsessed radio programmers, Love mostly treats us to charmers like "Choke," an intensely seductive song about suicide, and "Daylight Tripping," a blatant celebration of hallucination, that suggest what Jefferson Airplane might have sounded like with Olivia Newton-John on vocals

and trip-hop-meister Tricky producing. "I've always been attracted to the really trippy, atmospheric music of the late '60s, like the Velvet Underground and Jimi Hendrix," Love says.

The twenty-eight-year-old Australian made up for missing the '60s herself with her first band, the Freaked-Out Flower Children, but didn't get to play her psychedelic demos for music legend Robbie Robertson until after paying her dues in London's hard-partying music scene. "I can't do acid myself," she laments. "My imagination is already too out of control. One time I woke up

at 3 A.M. and saw the laundry basket breathing. But you know I was always like that: When I was a little girl, I swear my dolls would get up and dance for me." And even in her model-perfect makeup, steel-gray eyes flashing, Love looks like she still thinks they might.

Dudley Saunders is a frequent *Interview* contributor. Nicky Love, pop's bright new light. Top by DKNY. Cosmetic colors by Lancôme. Stylist: Scott Free/Rex. Hair: Louise Moon for Artec Purehair/Artist Group. Makeup: Hiromi Inoko/Artist Group. For fashion and photo details see page 191.

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