

THE APPROVAL MATRIX

Our deliberately oversimplified guide to who falls where on our taste hierarchies.

HIGHBROW

The new MoMA.



Graham Greene's son condemns Norman Sherry's dishy new bio, says Sherry's obsession with brothels far surpasses that of his supposed subject.

Yoko Ono, 71, remakes "Every Man Has a Woman Who Loves Him" into the pro-gay-marriage "Every Man Has a Man Who Loves Him," topping U.S. dance charts. There's a lesbian version, too.



The Metropolitan Museum buys a fourteenth-century *Madonna and Child* the size of this page for \$45 million.



Kinsey.

Robert McCrum's Wodehouse: A Life.



HarperCollins reorganizes into **HarperMorrow and Collins.** Confusing, yes, but it'll probably all be Bertelsmann someday anyhow.



25-CD unabridged audio version of Tom Wolfe's I Am Charlotte Simmons released. Who needs phorix sex?

Thomas Pynchon "appears" on *The Simpsons* again, this time with a paper bag over his head.

Pixar stock falls, despite *Incredibles* success.

Golden Globes announce they'll consider *The Passion of the Christ* in **foreign-language category.** (Are dead languages foreign?)

Harvey Fierstein rumored to be joining Broadway's *Fiddler on the Roof* as Tevye.



Marryanamerican.ca: A Canadian dating site for expatriating American liberals, which boasts, "No good American will be left behind!"

DESPICABLE

BRILLIANT

National Treasure.

Trivial Pursuit's Saturday Night Live edition boasts more than 2,000 questions, each one painfully reminding players they have failed to develop a life.



Phantom of the Opera plays 7,000th performance.

Whoopi Goldberg revives her one-woman show, if not her career.



The catalytic, cathartic clip-art cartoons of **Get Your War On It,** by David Rees.

Hilary and Haylie Duff plan to cover Madonna's "Material Girl" for upcoming film about a pair of Hilton-like heiresses.

Britney's epistolary musings.

Liza Minnelli: Once again accused of assault. She's tougher than we thought.

Colin Farrell delivers the full monty in *Alexander*, after teasing us with *A Home at the End of the World.*



Jolt gum: All the sugar, twice the caffeine—now in handy chewable form!

Depeche Mode: Remixes '81-'04. Surprisingly excellent three-CD boxed set.

MPAA announces it will begin **suing movie downloaders.**

Richard Branson's ratings: Stuck on the runway.

Tara Reid accidentally flashes press corps.

Jim Sheridan signs on as director of 50 Cent biopic, which is now likely to be even better than *8 Mile.*

LOWBROW

PIPELINE

The New York magazine scene continues to provide fodder for the film industry, as **John Krokidas's *Slo-Mo***, which chronicles a *New Yorker* scribe's otherworldly writer's block, and Fox 2000's adaptation of **Lauren Weisberger's *The Devil Wears Prada*** both get the green light. . . . **Elton John** is developing an ABC sitcom inspired by his

own experiences in the music industry, and Bravo plans to air a concert he performed this July at Radio City Music Hall. . . . **Ewan McGregor** signed on to play Sky Masterson in the West End revival of *Guys and Dolls*, and Disney announced a director and set designer (**Francesca Zambello** and **George Tsypin**) for its long-

awaited Broadway adaptation of *The Little Mermaid*. . . . **DreamWorks** expressed a curious affinity for robots this week, announcing plans to move ahead with *Real Steel*, a story about futuristic machines built for the boxing ring, as well as a live-action film based on the popular eighties cartoon *Transformers*.