

DIVA



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POWER 50 BRITAIN'S MOST INFLUENTIAL GAY WOMEN

**THE EXPENSES
SCANDAL
CAN OUT
POLITICIANS
MAKE A
DIFFERENCE?**

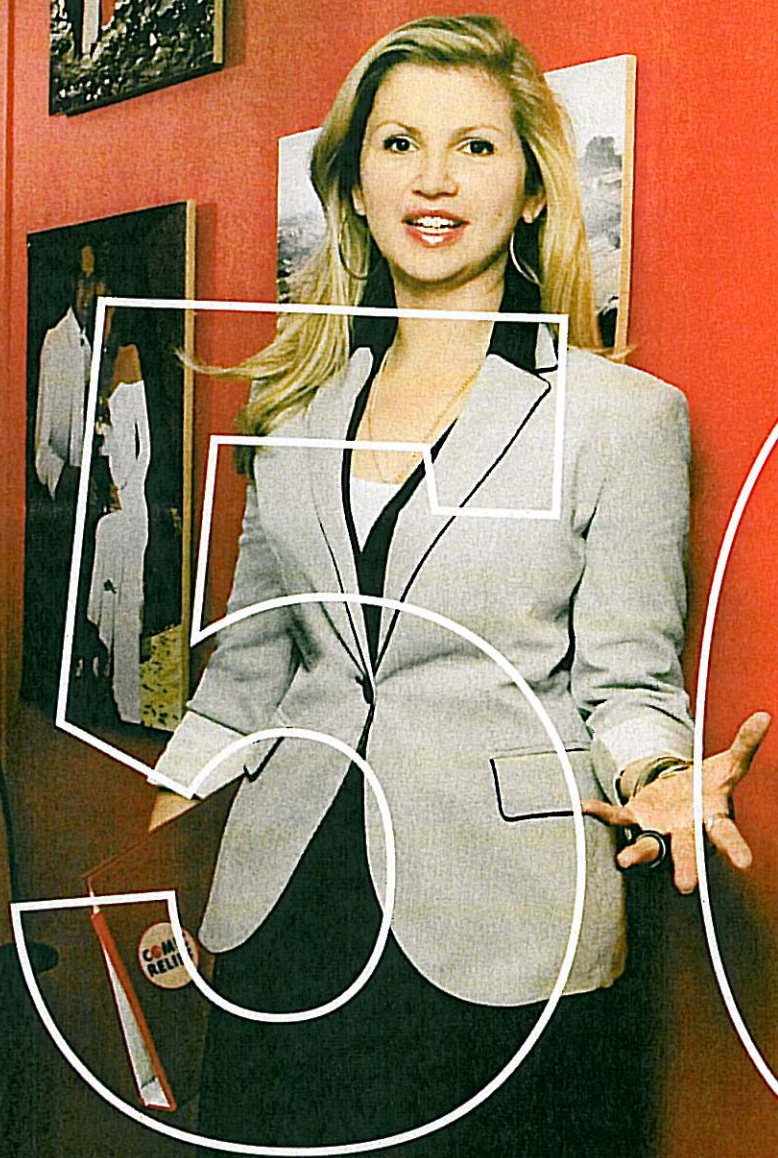
**OOH, LA ROUX!
10 UNMISSABLE
POP STARS**

**TORI AMOS:
ROCK STAR
AND... THERAPIST**

**LESBIAN HAIR
A SHORT,
ILLUSTRATED HISTORY**

**&
EXCLUSIVE
SONJA SOHN
THE WIRE'S LESBIAN
NARCOTICS DETECTIVE**





MOST INFLUENTIAL

Gathering nominations for our Power 50 list was easy. We wrote a roll call of the obvious high-profile names, and then we asked people from various fields to suggest others. The worlds of media and literature were easy, seemingly teeming with lesbian talent. As we entered the apparently less lesbian-friendly terrains of law, politics, academia, science, business and finance, it began to get trickier. Some nominees were flattered but asked not to be named, others responded with a flat-out no. One could argue that becoming powerful and influential has little to do with sexuality and, for some, this is undeniably true. In other cases, it's possible that those who have risen to the top of their game may well have done so in response to the homophobia they've experienced, to prove to themselves and others that being a gay woman should be no barrier to high achievement. We're thrilled to be able to include those listed over the following pages and hope that next year we'll be able to expand our list further still.

COMIC RELIEF'S HANNAH FOX
PORTRAIT BY LEZLI + ROSE

TOP 50 POWER LESBIANS

clays Bank in 1998 and has held a number of positions, most recently as business change director. She has been heavily involved in the diversity agenda at Barclays including the setting up of its LGBT employee network, Spectrum. She has recently become a trustee of the LGBT equality organisation, Stonewall.

EILEEN GALLAGHER

Prior to co-founding Shed Productions, Gallagher was managing director of LWT (London Weekend Television) and deputy managing director of Granada Broadcasting. She co-created popular series *Bad Girls* and *The Fugitives*. As chair of the Independent Producers' Trade Association (PACT) for 2002 and 2003, she was a major voice in amending the Communications Act to strengthen the independent production sector in its dealings with broadcasters.

NATALIE GAMBLE

A partner in law firm Gamble and Ghevaert, Gamble has been heavily involved in various aspects of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 2008, including being a member of the bill's parliamentary strategy committee. In 2008 she was nominated by Stonewall for their Hero of the Year Award.

SUSAN GOLOMBOK

Professor of family research at the University of Cambridge, Golombok owns an impressive academic history. She has been involved in policy issues as a member of the government surrogacy Review Committee and advised the Department of Health on issues regarding assisted reproduction and lesbian mother families.

LIZ GRANT

The sales and marketing manager for IBM, Grant has worked for the computer giant since 1983. Deputy chair of the Board of Trustees at Stonewall, she has been the trustee lead for workplace programmes since the inception of Stonewall's highly effective Diversity Champions programme. This programme now has 500 employer members who in turn employ over 3 million British people. IBM was a founder member of the programme when it was established.

CRESSIDA GRANGER

CEO at Mathmos, Granger started out selling lava lamps at Camden Market. In 1989 she bought the original lava lamp company and has since transformed the brand, winning international design awards and receiving two export awards from the Queen. In 1999 she was a finalist for Business Woman of the Year award. See p63



ALLEGRA MCEVEDY MBE

Chef and writer/broadcaster, McEvedy co-founded Leon, the healthy, fast-food restaurant group. In 2008 she was awarded an MBE for services to the hospitality industry. Described by the Independent as 'a caterer with a conscience', she is a spokesperson for FairTrade, and editor-in-chief of the 'FairTrade Baking Book'. Watch out for her soon on BBC2's forthcoming cookery show, *Economy Gastronomy*.

MAGGI HAMBLING OBE

A distinguished painter and sculptor whose work can be seen in the British Museum, National Gallery, National Portrait Gallery and Tate gallery, Hambling is particularly known for her controversial public art. Her statue of Oscar Wilde was unveiled in 1998 and Scallop for Benjamin Britten, at Aldeburgh, Suffolk, in 2003. In 1995 she won the Jerwood Prize for Painting with Patrick Caulfield. See p65

FIONA HARVEY

Harvey takes charge of all environmental coverage for the Financial Times. Between assignments at top-level government negotiations and reporting from the Arctic to the rainforest, Fiona has scooped the world's top awards in green journalism and addressed gatherings of the United Nations on climate change. She is a long-time volunteer at London Lesbian and Gay Switchboard. See p 64