

## **Press Kit - Alice Bag**

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### **Bio**

Alice Bag (born Alicia Armendariz on November 7, 1958 in [Los Angeles](#), California) is a punk rock singer, musician, author, educator and [feminist](#) archivist. Alice was lead singer and co-founder of The Bags, one of the first wave of punk bands to form in the mid-1970's in Los Angeles, CA.

Her first book, *Violence Girl, East LA Rage to Hollywood Stage* is the story of her upbringing in East LA, her eventual migration to Hollywood and the euphoria and aftermath of the first punk wave. *Violence Girl* reveals how domestic abuse fueled her desire for female empowerment and sheds a new perspective on the origin of hardcore, a style most often associated with white suburban males.

An outspoken activist, feminist and a self-proclaimed troublemaker, Alice has remained active in music since the late 1970's and published her second book, *Pipe Bomb for the Soul* in 2015. The ongoing influence of Alice's style can be seen in the traveling Smithsonian exhibition, *American Sabor*. She has been profiled by PBS, AARP and has been an invited speaker at colleges including Stanford, Wellesley and USC. Her memoir, *Violence Girl*, is now required reading in gender and musicology courses throughout the country.

### **Pipe Bomb for the Soul**

In 2011, Alice Bag's memoir, *Violence Girl - East L.A. Rage to Hollywood Stage, A Chicana Punk Story* provided a window into the critical events taking place in Los Angeles in the 1960's and 70's, as seen through the eyes of a young Chicana protagonist. *Violence Girl* ends in the mid-1980's with the ascendancy of the neo-conservative Reagan era, the evolution of punk into hardcore, and an educational expedition to Sandinista Nicaragua.

In *Pipe Bomb for the Soul*, Alice Bag invites the reader to join her for one life-changing month in post-revolutionary Nicaragua. From Managua to the small town of Esteli, Alice encounters people and situations that challenge her long-held beliefs and force her to evaluate the true costs and value of the American Dream. An excellent companion piece to *Violence Girl*, *Pipe Bomb for the Soul* builds on the anti-authoritarian spirit of punk that proposed self-empowerment as a way of life.

In keeping with the spirit of the book, Bag made the decision to self-publish *Pipe*

Bomb for the Soul in May 2015.

**Press and Reviews:**

"Fierce and funny, feminist and political, and punk as f\_\_\_\_, Violence Girl is a true survivor's tale. An introduction to an irrepressible spirit you'll be glad you met." - Bitch

"After decades of dudes telling their stories of punk's formative years in memoir, we finally get one of L.A. punk's most crucial figures—Alice Bag, frontwoman of The Bags—telling her tale. Unsentimental and tough, she gets out from under her patriarchal family and finds her place among a crew of motley, misfit kids as they accidentally invented the American West Coast punk in bands like X, Black Flag, Germs and her own band, The Bags." --Jessica Hopper, Rookie

"Alice Bag is back in book form and is as explosive as ever. Pipe Bomb For The Soul excels in rekindling that revolutionary fervor existing in Nicaragua as it attempted a more pluralistic socialist democracy while mired in a bloody U.S.-backed Contra war." - OC Weekly

**Contact:**

email: [alice@alicebag.com](mailto:alice@alicebag.com)

website: [www.alicebag.com](http://www.alicebag.com)

Skype: alicebag1

**Hi-Res Photos:**

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/alicebag/sets/72157652288623372>

**Music:**

<http://www.alicebag.com/music/>

**Social Media:**

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/alicebag>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AliceBag>

Instagram: [https://instagram.com/alice\\_bag](https://instagram.com/alice_bag)

Tumblr: <http://alice-bag.tumblr.com/>

Google+: <https://plus.google.com/+AliceBag1/posts>

**Upcoming appearances and shows:**

<http://www.alicebag.com/events/>