

humor, news + nightlife

# boston's weekly dig

**INTENSE** | BOHEMIAN PIMP PROJECT

**VERDICT** | MORE STEAK THAN CHEESE **GENRE** | PHILLY HIP-HOP **LABEL** | DEFEND MUSIC

**RELEASE** | 10.17.05

[WWW.DEFENDMUSIC.COM](http://WWW.DEFENDMUSIC.COM)

Intense is a one-man Black Star with bare-chested rhymes that sprint through tracks with Talib Kweli depth and Mos Def charisma. He's a member of Philadelphia's Roots-related, Native Tongue-inspired Schoolz of Thought, but his only backup on *Bohemian Pimp Project* comes courtesy of producers Illmind, Hezekiah and Adam Bomb. Concept-driven cuts such as "Options" and lines like "Everywhere you go my cats are shinin' right behind it / 'Cause your rhymes is mutha fuckin' suspect like Gary Condit" not only make for a nearly flawless album, but lift Intense to the ranks of Philly pharaohs such as Black Thought and Baby Blak. **[CHRIS FARAONE]**

