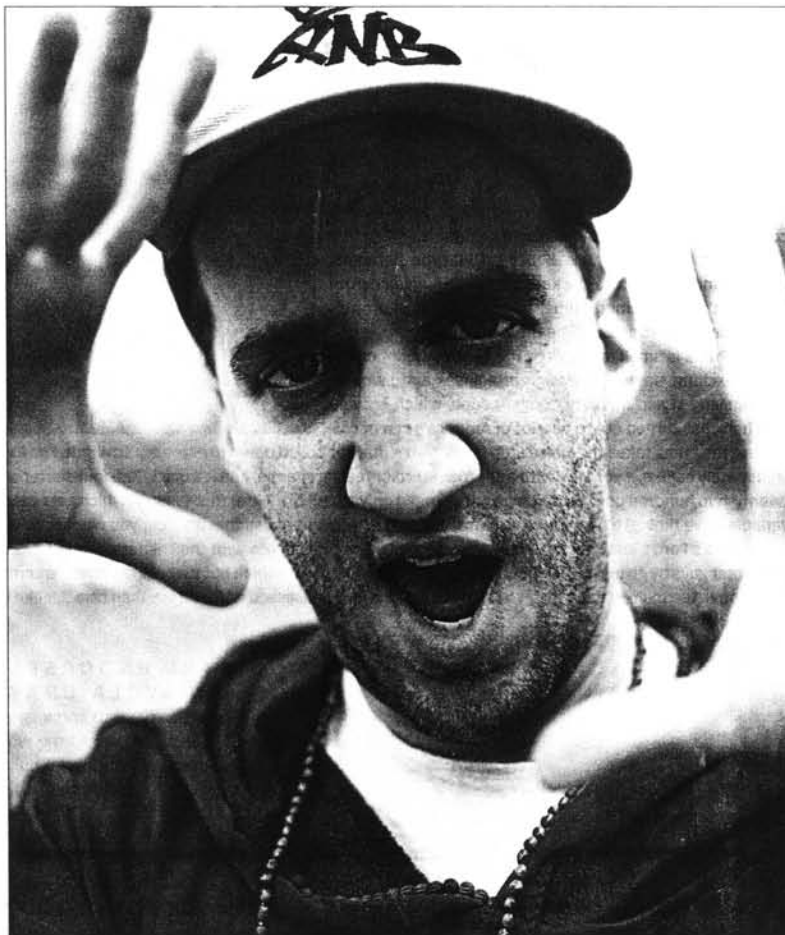


# Esquire

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## Danny Hoch

WHITE BOY WITH ATTITUDE

Danny Hoch turned down Quentin Tarantino. He also stood up to Jerry Seinfeld. Then he publicly trashed both the filmmaker and the sitcom star.

Hoch, twenty-eight, has zero tolerance for people who don't appreciate the devastating effect of perpetuating stereotypes. So he rejected a role in *From Dusk til Dawn* because Tarantino's script referred to "dirty, greasy Mexican whores," and he refused to play *Seinfeld's* Pool Guy as a cartoon of a Latino for cheap laughs.

Hollywood notwithstanding, Hoch is currently touring twenty-five cities with *Jails, Hospitals & Hip-Hop*, his virtuoso, street-savvy solo show. And Villard Books has just published the text of *Jails, Hospitals* and his previous show, *Some People*, in one volume. Onstage, this Jewish guy from Queens expertly trans-

forms himself into Latinos, black rappers, corrections officers, and Jamaican deejays. But unlike Hollywood's version, Hoch's performances have a brutal rawness; his characters are heartbreakingly nuanced: They are real. "These are the stories that are never seen center stage in three dimensions; they're only seen on the periphery, in one dimension, and that's why I create what I do," says Hoch.

To get those stories told, he's willing to deal with Hollywood . . . on his terms. He breaks through with a small role in *The Thin Red Line*; a film version of *Jails, Hospitals*; and *White Boys*, a movie he cowrote and stars in, which is due out at the end of the year.

Meantime, he wants to inspire others to follow his lead. "I want to teach them they don't have to work for Disney to be a success." —Stuart Miller