

ALBUM REVIEW

Hurrah for the new weird America!



COCOROSIE Little Death Wishes

★★★★★

/ JOYFUL NOISE RECORDINGS
RELEASE 28.03.2025

The freak-folk sisters have gone hip-hop and show how it's done, surrealist-style.

BY **NICOLAJ ROOS** / PHOTO: DARIA MIASOEDOVA, PRESS PHOTO
11.04.2025 / 17:51 / Reading time: 4 min

As you know, the world's a bit chaotic right now — which makes it the perfect time for more music from the "New Weird America" camp

For over 20 years, the (half-Native) American sisters Bianca "Coco" and Sierra "Rosie" Casady have been flying the flag for some of pop's more experimental corners. Not "experimental" like when Beyoncé picks up an acoustic guitar — more like when we, alongside Alice, tumble fully into Wonderland.

CocoRosie's blend of freak-folk, electronica, and avant-garde conjures an atmosphere somewhere between *Freaks*, *Eraserhead*, and *Un Chien Andalou*. The usual rules don't apply here, and the vibe often veers toward the baroque and theatrical. In their own words, they "collect musical garbage," and in doing so, they dance along the edge of kitsch and cliché.

READ MORE: [Guide to the curious indie lover](#)

Where their early sound leaned more acoustic and lo-fi, they've gradually evolved into something more electronic — and dare I say, more produced. This shift suited them well on 2020's *Put the Shine On*, and it continues on *Little Death Wishes*, where tempos rarely rise above 120 BPM, reminiscent of the more patient end of hip-hop (which they also draw heavily from).

CocoRosie now calls Joyful Noise Recordings home (also the label for Denmark's Sleep Party People), but they previously released music through Sub Pop — now home to Deep Sea Diver. I can't help but draw a parallel between those two bands: both have embraced a bigger, bolder, CinemaScope aesthetic on their latest releases.

In a departure from previous albums, the sisters have swapped creative roles, with Sierra penning most of the lyrics this time — often with a somber edge. Several songs reflect on their "junkyard" mother, their volatile father, time behind bars, and a lost brother.

Sierra, at times, sounds like she might've taken vocal lessons from Karin Dreijer of The Knife — adopting a similar theatrical, foreign-sounding accent despite being entirely American. Elsewhere, she morphs into a helium-voiced jazz diva, evoking Marcella Detroit of the now-defunct Shakespear's Sister. All of this only adds to their kaleidoscopic storytelling.

Little Death Wishes, marks the full transformation from lo-fi bedroom experimentalists to full-blown (but still pleasingly off-kilter) pop producers. Working with engineer Oz Fritz (Tom Waits, William S. Burroughs), the Casady sisters handled production themselves.

They clearly have a soft spot for the piano, which recurs throughout the album (see also their 2024 acoustic piano EP *Elevator Angels*). Melodically, the album leans toward minimalism — and if I have one complaint, it's that some tracks, particularly the piano-led "Unbroken," feel melodically static (read: the same chord progression repeated ad infinitum).

CocoRosie has always been tough to pin down. But this time, there's a clearer vision — a stronger guiding light that pulls the album in a more cohesive direction. The music is still airy and whimsical, but it somehow feels heavier, more grounded — with a definite club undercurrent.

"Cut Stitch Scar" lays down a concrete-heavy groove with rubbery bass, glitch textures, and a Björk-like vocal (fittingly, *The Adventures of Ghosthorse and Stillborn* was produced by Björk collaborator Valgeir Sigurðsson). There's a strong Kate Bush energy here, updated for 2025. And the chorus even gives a cheeky nod to *Big Little Lies*.

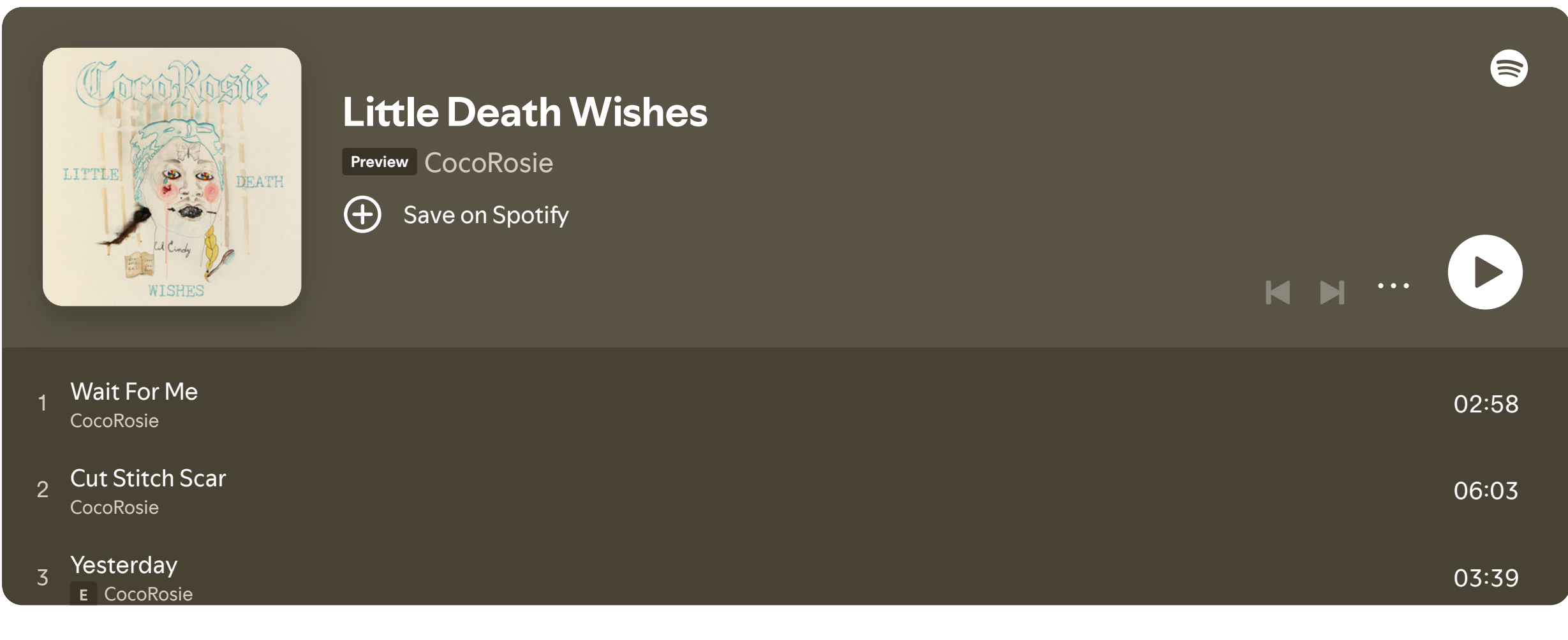
"Least I Have You" keeps the hip-hop thread going, layering in some slick '80s synths. It flirts with Rihanna and Alicia Keys territory — in a way that's unexpectedly delightful.

"Pushing Daisies" throws everything into the blender: 1940s vocal harmonies, syncopated percussion loops, rap verses, and dancehall beats (not unlike the dearly departed Danish outfit Jaconsfetti).

I've long believed that the edgiest, most experimental artists often end up making the best pop music — and CocoRosie make a compelling case for that, underlining the point in bold. I challenge any fan of Yeah Yeah Yeahs, Warpaint, Björk, or Kate Bush to listen to "Cut Stitch Scar." If you're not sold within the first 20 seconds, I'll eat my old poncho. And if you are? "Girl in Town" awaits — a full-on slow-motion club banger, featuring none other than Chance the Rapper.

Little Death Wishes is a sprawling, surprising album. It blends Disney-dream whimsy with Alicia Keys-style polish, dark indie bangers with Timbaland-level club energy. Sure, it has its flaws — but overall, it's a boundary-smashing, beautifully produced triumph.

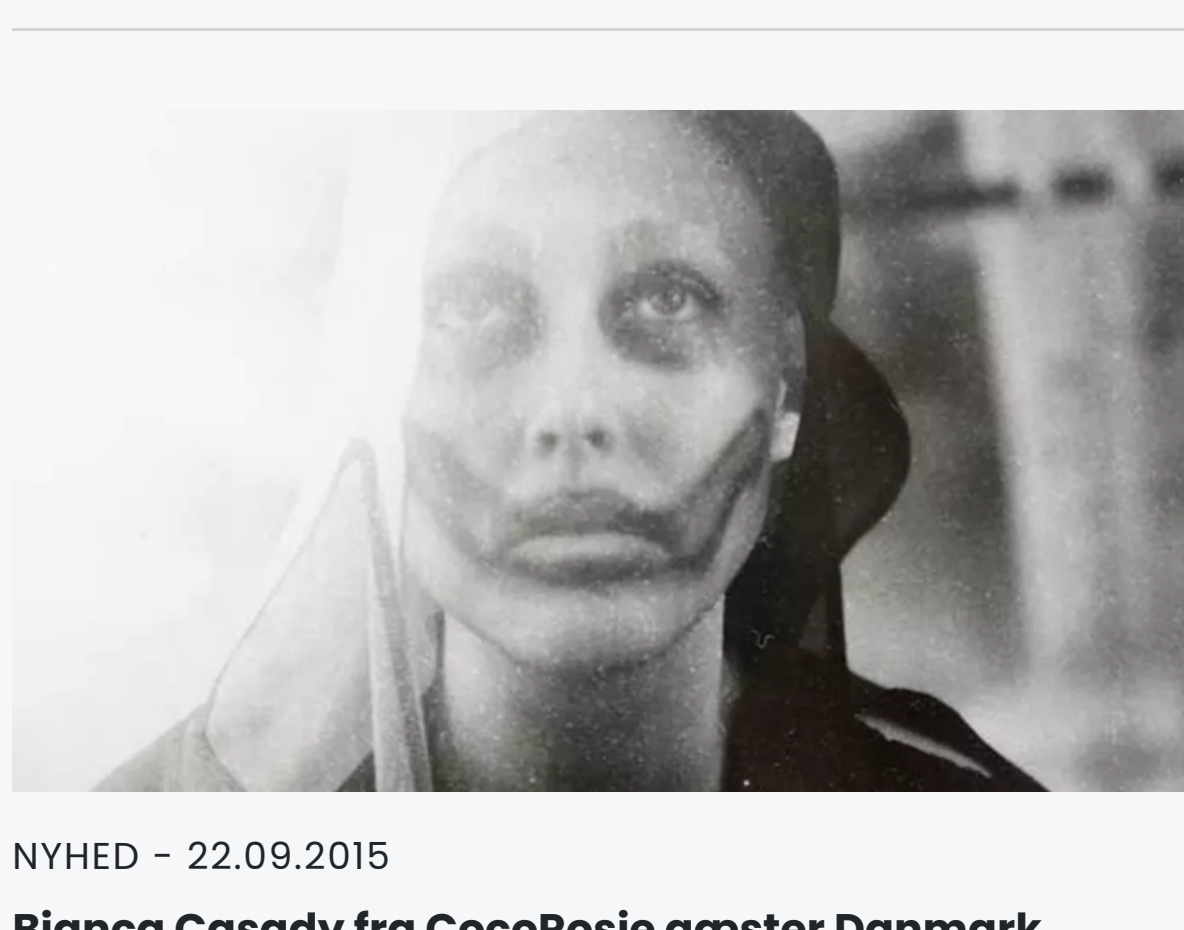
READ MORE: DROP THE STREAMING PLATFORMS – HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR FAVORITE ARTIST IN 2025



RELATERET INDHOLD

CocoRosie

NYHEDER (5)



NYHED – 22.09.2015
Bianca Casady fra CocoRosie gæster Danmark

NYHED – 03.09.2013
Interview: CocoRosie indtager Danmark i dag og i morgen

NYHED – 28.06.2013
CocoRosie til Danmark

NYHED – 01.08.2011
CocoRosie gæster Voxhall

NYHED – 15.07.2011
CocoRosie til Vega

SE ALLE

ARTIKLER (1)



ARTIKEL – 27.05.2010
CocoRosie – Angst, musik og natur

SE ALLE

ALBUMANMELDELSER (4)



ALBUMANMELDELSE – 25.05.2013
CocoRosie

CocoRosie: Tales Of A GrassWidow

ALBUMANMELDELSE – 28.04.2010
CocoRosie

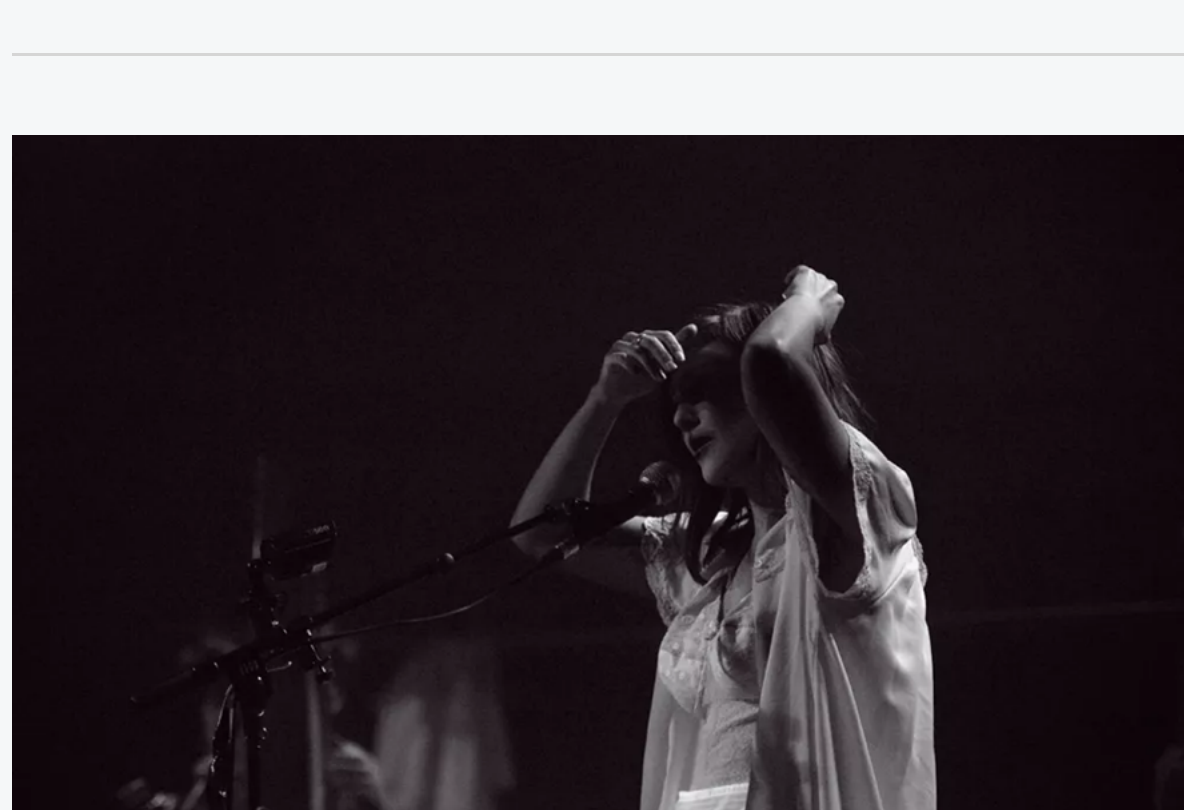
CocoRosie: Grey Oceans

ALBUMANMELDELSE – 17.04.2007
CocoRosie
CocoRosie: The Adventures Of Ghosthorse And Stillborn

ALBUMANMELDELSE – 06.10.2005
CocoRosie

CocoRosie: Noah's Ark

KONCERTANMELDELSER (5)



KONCERTANMELDELSE – 04.09.2013
CocoRosie

CocoRosie: Store Vega, København

KONCERTANMELDELSE – 05.06.2009
CocoRosie

CocoRosie: Train, Århus

KONCERTANMELDELSE – 05.07.2008
CocoRosie

CocoRosie: Roskilde Festival, Odeon

KONCERTANMELDELSE – 13.08.2007
CocoRosie

CocoRosie: VoxHall, Århus

KONCERTANMELDELSE – 08.11.2005
CocoRosie

CocoRosie: med Jacob Faurholt & Sweetie Pie Wilbur, VoxHall, Århus

SE ALLE

LÆS OGSÅ



ALBUMANMELDELSE – 13.07.2025
Communions

Et modent album - men hvor blev modet af?

ALBUMANMELDELSE – 13.07.2025
Africa Express

Flot genkomst fra Damon Albarns verdensprojekt

ALBUMANMELDELSE – 11.07.2025
Justin Bieber

Justin Bieber overraskelsesalbum er en 21 numre lang rustjebanetur

ALBUMANMELDELSE – 11.07.2025
Barry Can't Swim

Et monster er født i succesens tomme studielokaler

ALBUMANMELDELSE – 11.07.2025
Heaven Shall Burn

Et lys i mørket

GAFFA

Få GAFFAs nyhedsmail

KONTAKT

KONCERTGUIDEN

KULTURPOLITIK

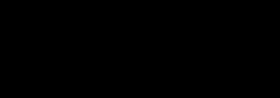
FESTIVALGUIDEN

INDTAST DIN EMAILADRESSE

TILMELD

Ja tak, jeg ønsker at modtage GAFFAs nyhedsbrev, og godkender derfor [cookie & privatlivspolitik](#).

FØLG OS



© 2025 GAFFA. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

DANMARK

SVERIGE

NORGE

itm8