



SEARCH

FRIDAY,

PAPERMAG.COM pm (NYC) PARTY SNAPS BLOGS VIP LOUNGE

ART LOOKS NEWSLETTER MAGAZINE MUSIC STAGE SMILE

pm(NYC) TIPS FOR TODAY

Fiery Furnaces  
 Demetri Martin:  
*These Are Jokes*  
 Public Access: *Ricky Powell Photographs, 1985-2005*  
 Ninth Annual Dumbo Arts Under the Bridge Festival

TIPS FOR TOMORROW

TOP 10 PEOPLE ON PAPERMAG LAST WEEK

OCTOBER 2 - 8

1. KATIE HOLMES
2. JENNA JAMESON
3. JESSICA SIMPSON
4. PAM RACINE
5. PATRICIA ARQUETTE
6. PHARELL WILLIAMS
7. TARYN MANNING
8. GWEN STEFANI
9. MICHAEL ALIG
10. JEFF PALMER

**FALL GIFT IDEAS**

advertisement

# TWO BY TWO

## ON COCOROSIE'S NEW ALBUM, NOAH'S ARK, THE FORMER NOMADS WARBLE THEIR WAY HOME.

BY HOPE GLASSBERG

Somehow it all works: The sound, a horse's neigh or a phone's unanswered ring, interspersed with Bianca Casady's scratchy baby voice and Sierra Casady's heartbreakingly beautiful operatics, and the look -- dripping gold chains, midriff shirts and theatrical makeup complete with drawn on mustaches.

Such is the topsy-turvy world inhabited by the sisters who helm CocoRosie, a band that burst onto the scene in 2004 with a biography as unique as the ethereal, lo-fi sound of their debut album *La Maison de Mon Rêve* (Touch and Go). It is a sound they have maintained more or less in their latest album, *Noah's Ark*, which will be released by Touch and Go on September 13th.



COCOROSIE PHOTO BY SHAWNA ENTART

Their many musical accomplishments notwithstanding, the Casady's crazy childhood tale typically precedes and, in some cases, overshadows them. The girls spent their youth traveling around Indian reservations with their Cherokee mother and father who had a keen interest in Shamanism and peyote. Things took an even more dramatic turn when Sierra was kicked out of her mother's house at 14 for "singing too much." She entered boarding school, but that unlikely fit didn't last too long.

"I changed schools every year, got kicked out for a while. They said I was

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own world," says Sierra, 25, quietly, glossing over what sounds like a particularly turbulent adolescence.

One casualty of Sierra's troubled childhood was her relationship with her younger sister Bianca. In fact the sisters, whose parents have long since split, had almost completely lost touch until one fateful day in 2003 when Bianca showed up unannounced at Sierra's doorstep in Montmartre, Paris, where she was studying opera. They recorded *La Maison* in a fever pitch mostly in the bathtub of Sierra's apartment and promptly began traveling again when their bizarre masterpiece hit it big.

While the production value of *Noah's Ark* is slicker than that of *La Maison*, it contains the same weird, hodge-podge quality. In the title track, Sierra, sounding every inch the pious church-goer, thanks God for His earthly creations, while electronic mish mash and beat box rhythms punctuate the background.

Themes of wandering and loneliness pervade *Noah's Ark*, which was recorded in bits and pieces while the sisters were on the road promoting *La Maison*. In "Beautiful Boyz," Bianca sings about an orphan's journey: "Born to a whore most likely, he became an orphan, oh what a lonely orphan." It might sound trite or unconvincing were it not for the fact that Bianca possesses a voice reminiscent of Billy Holiday after a serious bender.

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