



COCOROSIE

NOAH'S ARK

TOUCH AND GO

Like Joseph Cornell's glass-fronted boxes, CocoRosie's songs are full of recognizable ephemera that gain exotic beauty from unexpected context. *La maison de mon rêve*, the self-consciously bohemian, Francophilic family duo's 2004 debut, provoked strong reactions all around, and that won't change here. CocoRosie's unique voices – Bianca Cassady's a cracked, breathy bleat; sister Sierra's tinged with operatic pathos – could be called contrived, to say nothing of the music's collision of trip-hop beats, French rappers, synth bleeps and toy sounds with pianos and folkly stringed things. But such characterizations miss the odd wonder of these whimsical pocket-sized fairytales, which include eerie children's dreams ("The Sea Is Calm"), sinuous gender ambiguity ("Beautiful Boys") and abstracted commentaries on conventionality ("Armageddon"). – JA