

DAMAGED GOODS

**NEW RELEASE INFORMATION**

Artist: **The Courettes**

Title: **The Soul Of... The Fabulous  
Courettes**

Cat No: DAMGOOD622CD/LP/CS    Format: CD / Ltd. WHITE LP /  
CASSETTE / DIGI

Barcode: CD - 5020422062221  
LP - 5020422062214  
CASSETTE - 5020422062252

Release Date: 27<sup>th</sup> September 2024

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**New studio album! On CD, cassette or gatefold white vinyl LP!**

A rock'n'roll sensation from the word go, Danish-Brazilian **The Courettes** are back with their fourth and best album to date – *The Soul Of... The Fabulous Courettes*. And this time, they're bigger, wider and deeper than ever before as they add more to the blistering ramalama that's seen them cause pandemonium across the venues, festivals and airwaves of the UK, Europe, USA and Japan. Hitting the sweet spot that straddles garage rock, girl groups, doo-wop harmonies, heartache and all points in between, here The Courettes build on the momentum of predecessor 'Back In Mono' with a collection of songs that opens up their sonic scope while confronting dark, emotional matter to reveal 'The Soul Of The Fabulous Courettes'.

"We didn't want to do *Back In Mono 2*," stresses drummer Martin Couri.

"We always try to put ourselves into a zone of discomfort, which I think is where exciting things happen rather than just doing the same thing over again," agrees singer, guitarist and multi-instrumentalist Flavia Couri. "I mean, I know some bands can do that but we don't see ourselves making the same album for the next 20 years. We thought 'Back In Mono' was our best album until this one!"

She's not wrong. Having evolved with each album release, *The Soul Of... The Fabulous Courettes* draws inspiration from many of the duo's numerous idols that have only previously been hinted at.

"We wanted to show our love of the Spector Wall Of Sound and Motown," reveals Flavia. "It was a clear mission and we've absolutely nailed it."

From the glorious opening beats and stabbing fuzz honks of 'You Woo Me' to the closing emotional tugs of 'For Your Love' via 'SHAKE!'s fuzzed-up urgency and 'California's celebratory warmth, The Courettes have broadened their sound with an increased musical instrumentation and overall sophistication that's evident in both their sound and songwriting. And crucially, they've achieved this without sacrificing any of the rock'n'roll grit that's been scraped from Flavia's guitar strings and Martin's battered and pummelled drums. And aiding them in their quest for sonic perfection are a few guest musicians and back-room wizards playing some very specific roles.

"We had La La Brooks of The Crystals singing on 'California' and 'Run Run Runaway', which for us was totally a dream come true!" enthuses Flavia. "I mean, the voice of 'Da Doo Ron Ron', which is for us is one of the best produced songs in the entire universe and this is something that we're really proud of."

Further magic was applied by direct connections to the source of all that The Courettes hold dear.

"We asked Darian Sahanaja, who worked on the production of Brian Wilson's 'Smile', to mix the vocals on 'California' and 'Run Run Runaway', which he did in a Beach Boys style and we really dig it. And we also worked with Richard Gottehrer, who for us is like a songwriter god! He worked at the Brill Building and co-wrote 'I Want Candy'. A mutual friend played him 'Keep Dancing' and he left a message on my phone saying, 'I love your track and I really dig the lyrics' and he mixed 'Keep Dancing' and 'Boom Boom Boom'."

"We also had Peter Kehl and Kasper Wagner from Danish band Black Tornado playing horns on 'Shake!', 'Better Without You' and 'Stop! Doing That'," says Martin. "We had a session with them where they played trumpets and a lot of overdubs with tenor and baritone saxophones. That was really cool."

And joining The Courettes at their own StarrSound Studios in Denmark once again is multi-instrumentalist Søren Christensen who contributes Mellotron, organ, piano and backing vocals while producing the album together with C.T. Levine.

While the music has opened up to include acoustic and 12-string guitars, bass, E-bows, castanets and timpani, so have the kind of emotions that might not ordinarily be associated with The Courettes.

"Because I'm the one most responsible for the lyrics, I actually allowed myself to open up to some personal things," admits Flavia. "And so that means that our souls are in the album

both musically and also lyrically.”

She continues: “We lost both of our fathers. My father died of COVID. But my relationship with my father was non-existent. He abandoned me and my sister. It was a very difficult relationship and it’s not so easy for me to talk about it. ‘I Don’t Want You Back’ and ‘Keep Dancing’ are about his death and how he still has a power over me and bringing me down and what it’s like to break free from that. You know, some parents are cruel.”

“It’s a special subject to sing about and to make pop music out of,” says Martin. “It’s actually celebrating moving on and I think that’s really fantastic. ‘Keep Dancing’ is absolutely smashing.”

“*The Soul Of... The Fabulous Courettes* blends two things,” explains Flavia. “First, of course, are the nods to the soul music and especially Motown, which is pop music the way we like it. But I think for the first time, lyrically, we actually open up to some deeper topics. It’s not disguised as teenage heartache songs anymore.”

Reflecting *The Soul Of... The Fabulous Courettes*, the album’s monochrome album cover was shot by celebrated photographer Søren Solkær, who’s previously immortalised Amy Winehouse, The White Stripes and Paul McCartney among many others.

“It’s such a cool contrast to the pop songs,” says Martin of the cover art, “but it’s also hand-in-hand with the album’s dark themes. He really goes into your soul. I think it’s amazing.”

For all that, *The Soul Of... The Fabulous Courettes* is an album aimed as much for what’s below the neck as above it, for this is an album that dances through the darkness to celebrate the joy that is living.

“Life is so fragile,” smiles Flavia. “But what are you supposed to do? I’d rather dance.”

And what better album to do that to?

## **TRACKLISTING**

- 1 - You Woo Me
- 2 - California
- 3 - Keep Dancing
- 4 - Here I Come
- 5 - Don’t Want You Back
- 6 - Wall of Pain
- 7 - SHAKE!
- 8 - Boom Boom Boom
- 9 - Better Without You
- 10 - Run Run Runaway
- 11 - Lies
- 12 - Stop! Doing That
- 13 - For Your Love

## TOUR DATES

- 25.09 The Adelphi - Hull, UK   
26.09 The Night Owl - Birmingham, UK   
27.09 NE Volume Music Bar - Stockton, UK   
28.09 Acapela Studio - Cardiff, UK   
29.09 St Marys A Creative Space - Chester, UK   
30.09 The Cluny - Newcastle, UK   
01.10 The Caves - Edinburgh, UK   
02.10 Room 2 - Glasgow, UK   
03.10 Night & Day - Manchester, UK   
04.10 The Dome - London, UK   
05.10 Norwich Arts Centre - Norwich, UK   
06.10 Wedgewood Rooms - Portsmouth, UK   
10.10 Copenhagen Distillery - Copenhagen, Denmark   
11.10 Turbinen - Randers, Denmark   
12.10 Studenterhuset - Aalborg, Denmark   
23.10 El Sol - Madrid, Spain   
24.10 Boogaloo Cafe - Caceres, Spain   
25.10 Velvet Club - Malaga, Spain   
26.10 Sala Milwaukee - Puerto de Santa Maria, Spain   
27.10 Planta Baja - Granada, Spain   
30.10 Universidad - Victoria Gasteiz, Spain   
31.10 Outono Codax - Santiago de Compostela, Spain   
01.11 Funtastic Dracula Carnival - Benidorm, Spain   
02.11 La Casa del Loco - Zaragoza, Spain   
03.11 Kafe Antzokia - Bilbao, Spain   
05.11 Le Point d' Eau - Strasbourg, France   
07.11 Les Etoiles - Paris, France   
09.11 Rocksea - St Gilles Croix de Vie, France 

## SOCIAL MEDIA

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