



## BORN TO CREATE

BY MELISSA SELEY  
ART COLLABORATION BY BIANCA CASADY & KAI REGAN

### Bianca Casady, One-Half of Sister Band CocoRosie, Takes on the Art World.

Bianca Casady's earliest memory of making something artful is of mixing flowers from the garden at the Waldorf school she went to as a child on Hawaii's "dark, misty, mossy, damp, dank, isolated" Big Island, and putting them into a tiny jar with a cork. Perfume. She'd like to get back into it one day. Right now, though, the 25-year-old wunderkind -- one-half of the sister band CocoRosie, former-model, current co-owner of Voodoo-EROS records, past curator of the Lower East Side's Museum of Nice Items and frequent lecturer in France -- is pouring herself into working visually, explaining that CocoRosie had become "like a baby I was feeding all my ideas to."

A self-proclaimed "writer more than anything," Casady believes her prose takes its shape as naturally in visual forms as it does in lyrics. Inspired by the "cosmic quotes on things in dollar-stores," her paintings, collages and drawings are rife with mythic imagery that ranges from rainbow corncobs, puffy clouds and the faces of genderless children, to skulls, swastikas and dollar signs. As for influences, Casady cites her friend Black Cracker's two-line poems, performance-band The Voluptuous Horror of Karen Black, and her mom, singer-artist Tina Casady, with whom she is newly collaborating on video-installations.

For her October solo-show debut at Deitch Projects, Casady enlisted her mother to help create the Georgia O'Keeffe-esque "Bella-Donna," a sculpture-series that blends Bianca's penchant for garish candy-hues with Tina's for monochromatic white into a swirl of roses and milk. "I'm the idea-man and she's very physical," Casady elaborates, with a prime example: when Bianca mentioned in a "whimsical brainstorming phone-session" wanting a 13-foot bone at Deitch, days later Tina had built it and e-mailed a photo of herself in front of it. "How cool is that? Not that many people have moms who make giant bones." Not that many people have burned themselves so quickly, broadly and indelibly into the pop art landscape either. Albums, galleries, paintings, perfume -- artful indeed.

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