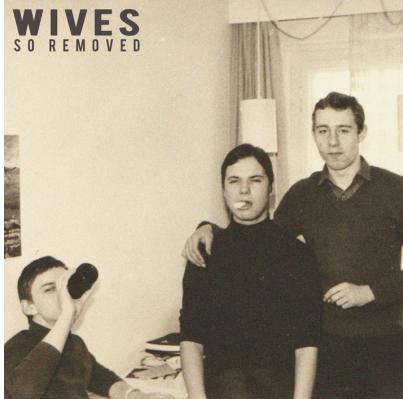




IRASCIBLE MUSIC



WIVES (USA)

Album / Single: So Removed

Label: City Slang

Release Date: 04.10.2019

Web: www.wivesnyc.com

EPK: irascible.ch/releases/wives/so-removed/

So Removed is grungy dark-wave, tethered to daily anxiety without resorting to cynicism. The noisy dissonance of Sonic Youth, the edgy hooks of early Pixies, and the clever, cerebral sneering of The Fall simmer as touchstones within the album, sharp and prodding at the details, pulsing with urgency. *So Removed* plunges into the void of unknown, a tangle of contemporary dread and optimism, mapping the gray areas of alienation.

The Queens, NY four-piece is the latest fit into a long lineage of New York's gritty, melodic-meets-punk. WIVES as a band came together by happenstance — a random realization amidst friends busy with other musical projects. Jay met Adam Sachs, WIVES' drummer, while interning at a New York recording studio where Adam worked as an assistant. The two became fast friends, their constant hanging out growing to include guitarist Andrew Bailey (DIIV) and bassist Gabe Wax, who'd eventually be replaced by another friend, Alex Crawford. All were embedded in New York's DIY music scene through their respective projects, with years of playing house shows and booking their own tours under their belts. It wasn't until a random day of extra studio time booked for another project that the four of them actually played together.

There's nothing mundane about *So Removed*, though. Wide-eyed and hyper-aware, WIVES' sound pulses with urgency. The quartet, which also counts in its rank Andrew Bailey of DIIV, are the latest fit in a long lineage of New York's gritty, melodic-tinged punk - hook-driven, grungy dark-wave that's tethered to daily anxiety without resorting to cynicism. Rather, any nonchalance in Beach's delivery can be traced to an acerbic, sardonic lyrical style rooted in his love of Bukowski and Rimbaud, as well as the poetry he writes himself. Musically, both the noisy dissonance of Sonic Youth and the clever, cerebral sneering of The Fall simmer as touchstones within the sprawling soundscapes the band conjure.

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