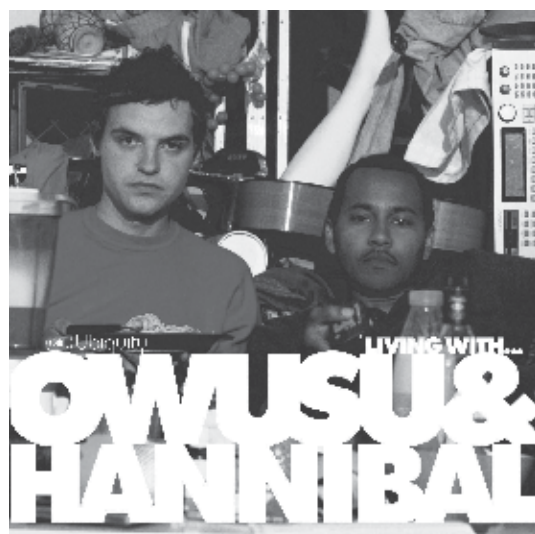


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# OWUSU AND HANNIBAL - LIVING WITH OWUSU AND HANNIBAL

STREET DATE: 10/10/2006



**Living With Owusu and Hannibal is the debut album from Danish duo Philip Owusu and Robin Hannibal that's packed with street smarts, a cheeky sense of humor and forward thinking production. Juxtaposing glitchy digital beats, fat bottom end, and shiny synths with acoustic guitars and lush strings soulful tracks retain a certain warmth and organic vibe but have been given a thorough roughing-up around the edges.**

*"We'll give you another take on the soul genre with references to whatever we've picked up on along the way,"* says Hannibal. *"Living With Owusu and Hannibal is just our perspective,"* he adds. With Ghanaian, Danish, German and American roots the pair mixes an eclectic cultural heritage in their audio melting pot. *"We met through a mutual friend, and quickly started talking through 50 years of music. We found out we were listening to some of the same stuff and shared an almost religious respect for Sly Stone,"* remembers Hannibal. *"Robin told me his Dad's name was James Braun. That closed the deal,"* jokes Owusu.

After the dreamy intro (sung in Danish by local school kids) *Living With Owusu and Hannibal* kicks off with the blues-y vibe of "Blue Jay" (a song about an immigrant night worker) that sits guitar and gospel-shaded vocal on top of a disjointed beat and eighties flavored keys. "Lonnie's Secret" and "Another Mile" take the bpm's up several notches with rubbery bass lines, while "Watch" is a string laden ballad (about a guy falling in love with a girl in a movie) with an unexpected twist. Eschewing all the rules the album features full and partial songs, instrumentals and tracks that sound just as good intimate in your headphones, as they do blasting through a car or club sound system.

((●)) Ubiquity

1010 W. 17TH STREET  
COSTA MESA, CA 92627  
PHONE: (949) 764-9012 ext.110  
FAX: (949) 764-9013  
EMAIL: SCOTTY@UBIQUITYRECORDS.COM

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*"Soul music is the foundation, but none of it is pure soul, it's a fusion of genres mixed with soul. I don't know about futuristic, but it's definitely the sound of us right now, hopefully it's classic,"* says Hannibal. *"We like mixing the innocent playful vibe with the cold, digital and darker elements like synthesizers,"* he adds. While the album covers subjects as broad ranging as integration problems, dodgy political alliances, incest, and insomnia, the duo are usually evasive when it comes to discussing lyrical themes in depth. *"We like to disguise the meanings and simplify so we don't sound like we're preaching...I'd prefer people conjure images in their own minds and link those images to their own personal experiences,"* says Owusu.

**"So exciting to hear something totally fresh and innovative with real soul that comes from my side of the world."**

**TREVOR JACKSON (OUTPUT)**

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