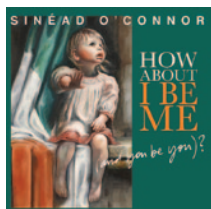


REVIEWS

SINEAD O'CONNOR

**How About I Be Me (And You Be You)?**

[One Little Indian]

Twenty-five years after her paradigm-shattering debut album, *The Lion and the Cobra*, Sinead O'Connor is as much a presence in the alt-rock world as ever. Returning to pop after a foray into reggae, on *How About I Be Me (And You Be You)?* O'Connor demonstrates that her voice is still a powerful instrument, one she deploys with rich booms and delicate lilts. While publicized scrutiny of her apparently tumultuous private life might make it difficult to take her sweeter love songs at face value, O'Connor's energy still crackles on even wistful tales of unrequited yearning. Her best moments come when she plays to the naturally earnest quality of her voice, particularly in a venomous cover of John Grant's "Queen of Denmark." As a woman whose extramusical behavior has lately been scrutinized to a fault, it seems only right that she is at her strongest when in high dudgeon. —Amanda Farah

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