

# MACEDO

The core story resembles the plot of a supernatural seventies television matinee or even a turn-of-the-century novel. Mixed race twin sisters grow up in a (*literally*) musical household where the antique piano plays itself in the dead of night. They pick up a penchant for poetry, lock into an inimitable harmony, and develop a following by countless local gigs and a string of independent releases all the while acting in various popular films and television shows. With a sound equally steeped in sun-soaked classic Southern California pop and nineties alternative mystique, twin duo Macedo—Michelle and Melissa—build a welcoming world on a series of singles and their forthcoming 2021 debut EP for Pasadena Records.

“We try to create a place where people feel like they belong, because we never had that,” Melissa exclaims. “We’re here to hopefully empower and let you know you’re not alone.”

Inspired by dad, the girls learned how to play piano and listened to everything from Mariah Carey and Whitney Houston to Tori Amos, Alanis Morissette, Nina Simone, and Joni Mitchell. By fifth grade, they started writing songs before hitting the local coffeehouses for regular performances throughout high school. They unassumingly drew inspiration from the family home—built on an old collapsed silver mine with the vestiges of ghostly energy intact. Doors opened and closed on their own as lights flickered off and on and one particular apparition followed them. More than anything, the experienced opened their minds to “*respect the other side and allow a darker quality into the writing,*” according to the girls.

College would be the first time they spent apart with Melissa at Columbia and Michelle at Emerson (though the infamous \$15 Chinatown bus from Boston to New York connected them). Post-graduation, they unveiled music at a prolific pace with the full-length *Flags & Boxes*, *Paperdoll* EP, and 2018’s *Ghost Town* in addition to touring with Anna Akana. Along the way, they built up an impressive filmography, appearing in everything from NETFLIX’s *Girlboss* series and *Confessions of a Teenage Jesus Jerk* to the horror flick *Every Time I Die* and *Blood Heist* with James Franco. With mixed race heritage and Michelle’s bisexuality, they also continually urge for equality and representation, speaking up at every turn.

At the top of 2020, they kicked off their next chapter signing to Pasadena Records and working with producer Chris Chu. On their first single “Can’t Imagine,” acoustic guitar and handclaps underscore a bold and bright gang vocal refrain, “*You’re my secret weapon, whenever I start stressin’, can’t imagine this world without you.*”

“We wanted to write a song highlighting sisterhood and togetherness, and it became even more relevant after the pandemic,” says Michelle. “As twins, it’s really hard to describe the connection we have. We always feel each other’s pain and joy. So, we tried to put that into a song.”

Meanwhile, “Stronger Now” glides over a hummable beat towards a chantable affirmation, “*It’s going to be okay even in the face of hope and despair,*” as Melissa states.

In the end, Macedo engage and empower as they bring everyone into their embrace.

“We’re turning the dark into light,” Michelle concludes. “We want to support through the music the way we support each other.”

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