

"Now Hear This"

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Self-titled (Epic Records)

The Alabama-bred Pierce sisters have managed to craft a solid and even affecting debut with their self-titled collection of folk-ish pop.

Catherine and Allison developed a cult following in their native Birmingham and later at Auburn University. On their debut album, it's easy to see why. In addition to their drop-dead model looks, they have beautiful voices that blend in easy, close harmony. They also have a knack for writing traditional singer-songwriter-type tunes that echo the Indigo Girls and Fiona Apple.

Check out particularly the opening track, "The Way."

— Sean Scully