

tscho

music

Saint Etienne join French popster Etienne Daho for a new mini-LP, 'Reserection', under the name Saint Etienne Daho. Their French connection is reviewed this week.

ALBUMS



St Etienne Daho

'RESERECTION' VIRGIN

Perhaps they were making a 'hands across *La Manche*', post-'you bastards are poisoning the Pacific' gesture, but it's more likely that nostalgic dancefloor popsters Saint Etienne and charming French indie fellow Etienne Daho got together to make music because both sides enjoyed creating gorgeous melodies. Whatever, the involvement of our happy-go-poppy trio on the production of Daho's latest album generated four-and-a-half new tracks which everyone concerned deemed worth their own release.

'Reserection' is a nifty little package combining Daho's lusty cosmopolitan crooning and Saint Etienne's Pet Shop Boys-go-'Smashing Time' disco-pop. While 'Jungle Pulse' and 'X Amours' are Euro-indie at its best, 'Accident' is a pulsating reworking of Saint Etienne's plush mover 'He's On The Phone' and 'Le Baiser Français' is *Monsieur Daho* in 'David Bowie goes airport music' mode, with all the continental mystique of an episode of 'Jason King' filmed on location in Shepperton... Still, the heartfelt romanticism of the whole affair and the fact that no one tried to string the project out for a full album both deserve an enthusiastic kiss on both cheeks.

Laura Lee Davies