

Review MI 2006-08-18

Artist: Sofia Härdig
Title: The Need To Destroy
Releasedate: 2006-08-21
Record company: [Filthy/Border]

Sofia Härdig is an interesting name in Swedish music, an artist and a songwriter who has drawn a lot of attention to herself in New York in the past years. She's very productive, always working in different musical surroundings, and now under her own name she presents her black and heavy grinding electronical music on the album *The Need To Destroy*. [Filthy Records/Border]

Last spring she released the album *The Storm In My Head* with her band *The Needles*, a band which guitarist Otto Milde is a member of, and he accompanies her this time as well. The band is left out on these recordings and she is the sole musician with some assistance by Milde.

On *The Need To Destroy* Härdig devotes herself mostly to industrial rock with dark complex sounds that she builds with programmings and drum machines. With electronical instruments she creates a dark atmosphere where her voice as usual is an important instrument. But as often as it is in focus, the voice moves in and out of the wall of sound creating different atmospheres.

Sofia Härdig's different collaborations with various experimental Swedish and international artists is more noticeable on this album than on the more straight forward rock'n'roll album from last year. With playfulness and curiosity she finds an essentially different world of sounds compared to last year's album.

Heavy synths and electronical rhythms are dominating. Otto Milde's guitars shows up on some of the tracks and gives them another colour than the black, dominating the album. The single Little Delight is one of them, in which he uses the space effectively.

With *The Need To Destroy* Sofia Härdig broadens her music in an impressive but not always pleasant way. Her voice and the heavy dark surrounding it is not easy listening, but if you get in to her music you have a whole lot to discover and find.

Tomas Fridholm, MI