

UNCUT

JUNE 2019

NEW ALBUMS

LUCETTE Deluxe Hotel Room

ROCK CREEK MUSIC/THIRTY TIGERS.

6/10

Canadian Americana artist veers into pop territory



Lauren Gillis, aka Lucette, is known for her hit “Bobby Reid”, a Southern Gothic tome whose video starred Sturgill Simpson as a creep with a rifle. *For Deluxe Hotel Room*, Simpson steps into the producer role, swapping the minimalist quality of Lucette’s debut for a sound that melds touchstones from girl groups,

Southern soul and ’80s pop. Album standouts “Angel”, “Out Of The Rain”, “Fly To Heaven” and “Deluxe Hotel Room” excel in this format, positioning Gillis’ smokey vocals over sax, drum machines, strings and synths to a dynamic and soulful effect. In less successful moments, the album idles in a mid-tempo haze. Simpson’s built his name by pushing the envelope of Americana, but here it translates as a series of peaks and valleys, rather than a cohesive landscape.

ERIN OSMON