

Cabaret Artist Becca Kidwell Releases Debut Album *What You Don't See* at 50

The singer-songwriter celebrates the release May 4 with a birthday concert at Don't Tell Mama NYC

NEW YORK, NY —

“After beginning her performing career at 40, cabaret singer-songwriter Becca Kidwell celebrates turning 50 with the release of her debut album, *What You Don't See*.”

BroadwayWorld Cabaret Award winner and two-time Manhattan Association of Cabarets and Clubs (MAC) Award nominee **Becca Kidwell** will release her debut album, *What You Don't See*, on **May 1, 2026**, on all major streaming platforms via her independent label **Bluefire Ash Records**. The album will be available for **pre-save beginning in late March 2026**.

Kidwell will celebrate the release with a **live album launch concert on May 4 at 7:00 PM at Don't Tell Mama (343 West 46th Street, NYC)**—coinciding with her **50th birthday**.

A New York–based cabaret singer-songwriter known for her blend of humor, vulnerability, and storytelling, Kidwell has built a reputation for performances that balance emotional honesty with sharp wit. Her debut album brings together **eight original songs** alongside a selection of theatrical and contemporary covers, exploring themes of reinvention, resilience, and self-discovery.

“**These songs are about everything we carry that people don't always see,**” says Kidwell. “**Fear, healing, humor, heartbreak, and the courage to keep growing.**”

Kidwell founded **Bluefire Ash Records**, a name inspired by the belief that music gives life, heart, and resilience, lifting the spirit like a phoenix rising from the ashes.

Blending **cabaret storytelling, singer-songwriter intimacy, jazz influences, and musical theatre**, *What You Don't See* reflects Kidwell's distinctive voice within the contemporary cabaret scene.

Critics have praised Kidwell's songwriting and performance style for its emotional depth and authenticity. Jed Ryan of *Lavender After Dark* wrote, “‘Emotional Creature’ is intense and leaves the audience begging for more. ‘Let Go and Love’ is somber and beautiful.” Analisa Bell of *BroadwayWorld* noted that “Kidwell's performance was a testament to both her vocal prowess and her ability to bare her soul on stage.” Writing about Kidwell's earlier single “Together Inside,” Andrew Poretz of *Theater Pizzazz* observed, “If this is a taste of Ms. Kidwell's songwriting skills, a full meal is in order.”

Produced by **Becca Kidwell, Jon Weber, and Chip Fabrizi**, *What You Don't See* was recorded, mixed, and mastered at **PPI Studios in New York City**. Vocal production was led by **Lynda DeFuria**.

The album features an accomplished ensemble of musicians from the cabaret and jazz worlds:

Becca Kidwell – vocals

Jon Weber – music director, piano, synth, acoustic guitar, background vocals

Ray Kilday – upright & electric bass

David Silliman – drums
Lynda DeFuria – backing vocals
Seoyeon Im – violin / fiddle
Davide Sgarra – clarinet / tenor saxophone
Ted Stafford – acoustic & electric guitar
Rafael Castillo-Halvorssen – trumpet
Chip Fabrizi – additional percussion

All musicians also contributed kazoos, noisemakers, and additional voices to the track “**Old Collagen Try.**”

Photography for the album was created by **Matt Baker**, with album artwork designed by **Kidwell**.

The recording was made possible through the generous support of **Indiegogo backers** and Kidwell’s husband.

Album Information

Title: *What You Don’t See*

Artist: Becca Kidwell

Label: Bluefire Ash Records

Release Date: May 1, 2026

Pre-save: Late March 2026

Format: Streaming platforms and CD

Track List

1. Tired, Tired, Tired
 2. Something Drastic
 3. Settle For Tears
 4. Mr. Darcy (explicit)
 5. It’s Your Funeral – Christine Lavin
 6. Old Collagen Try
 7. It Was A Shit Show (explicit) – from *Crazy Ex-Girlfriend*
 8. Emotional Creature
 9. I Miss The Mountains – *Next to Normal*
 10. Let Go & Love
 11. Jump and Twirl and Sing (explicit)
 12. Make Your Own Party
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Album Release Event

Becca Kidwell – Album Release Concert

Don’t Tell Mama

343 West 46th Street

New York, NY

May 4, 2026 – 7:00 PM

\$20 cover + \$20 food/drink minimum
(Cash-only venue)

CDs and streaming cards for *What You Don't See* will be available following the performance.

About Becca Kidwell

Becca Kidwell is a New York–based cabaret singer-songwriter and storyteller. A BroadwayWorld Cabaret Award winner and two-time Manhattan Association of Cabarets and Clubs (MAC) Award nominee, she has created multiple acclaimed cabaret shows since beginning her performing career at age 40. Known for blending humor, emotional honesty, and deeply personal storytelling, Kidwell's work draws inspiration from artists such as Mary Chapin Carpenter, Carole King, Alicia Keys, Barry Manilow, and musical theatre. Her debut album, *What You Don't See*, is released May 1, 2026 on Bluefire Ash Records.

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