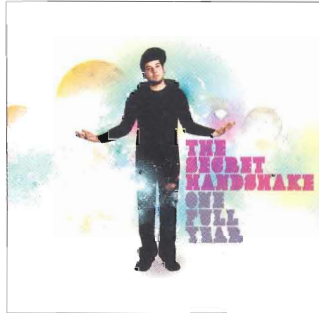


REMIX

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THE SECRET HANDSHAKE

One Full Year (Triple Crown)

One-man emo-tronic band

From the Auto-Tuned vocal line and jittery keys on "Everyone Knows Everyone" to the disco backbeat of "Lately," this is one unexpected set of songs. Full of heartbroken yet danceable laments, Luis Dubuc, aka the Secret Handshake, might sing a bit like Chris Carrabba, but there's a big difference: no extended whining. Instead, he sets his nonstop Auto-Tune-as-an-effect vox on a bed of hip-hop beats, computer-tweaked effects and cut-and-pasted new-wave harmonies. Dubuc proves that emo and electronica can indeed coexist—that is, if you're as deft at blending genres as he is. —Kristi Kates

★★★★☆