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The Family Sign



Ever since he invented girlfriend-gone-wrong Lucy Ford, Atmosphere frontman Slug has invited questions about how much of

his work is autobiographical. Fact and fiction still blur on his seventh proper album, but what's clear is that he's finally found a satisfying hip-hop hybrid—with longtime collaborator Ant and a spare-but-flexible keyboard/guitar lineup—matched to a set of lyrics that at least *feel* like his most personal revelations yet. Approaching 40, Slug has apparently reached a truce with many demons; “She’s Enough” epitomizes this hard-won, homefront contentment in the Twin Cities. “You outgrew the sum of your parts,” he raps at one point; that line describes the mature and masterful *The Family Sign*, as well. (RHYMESAYERS; rhymesayers.com) Dan LeRoy

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