



Year in Electronic 2008 by Philip Sherburne

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[Luomo – Convivial](#)

Sasu Ripatti has been so productive over the past few years, and his sound so consistent — across a range of aliases including Vladislav Delay, Uusitalo and Luomo — that it might have been easy to think that this, the first Luomo album in two years, would be mostly more of the same. But working with a fresh roster of singers — Scissor Sisters' Jake Shears, minimal-house icon Cassy and [Apparat](#), among others — appears to have energized the Finnish producer. Brooding numbers like Cassy's "Have You Ever" and "Gets Along Fine," featuring Chubbs, offer a more forceful version of the buoyant, synth-stroked Luomo sound, with heavier drums and harder edges. Album highlight "Love You All" sounds like Apparat supplied not only Depeche Mode-like vocals but also musical inspiration — Luomo has never sounded quite so *emo*. And the Shears-fronted "If I Can't" is a radio-ready classic stretched to eight delirious minutes.
