

“Actually, Records.”  
presents

# XYZR\_KX

## SECESSION IN ASTROPOLIS



### ABOUT:

Augmenting his trademark genre experimentation with the rewards of traditional pop songwriting, Jon Monteverde, aka XYZR\_KX, completes his trilogy of releases on “Actually, Records.” with “Secession in Astropolis”.

Borrowing its title from a rare work by James Joyce contemporary Eugene Jolas, itself an experimentation in inventing new forms of untranslatable ‘alienspeak’, Monteverde’s “Astropolis” becomes an exploration of futuristic impressions and soundscapes, imagining electro-pop music as conceived in the distant future. Furthering this conceit with its embrace of ideals originating in the naïve optimism era of space-age science fiction, Monteverde frames all of the music within the futuristic and dreamlike environment of a floating city, Astropolis itself, building a fully realized world of sound and vision.

Whereas his first two critically acclaimed releases, 2004’s “Falls Off the Curb, Chump Style” and 2006’s “Inanomie Op. 221” were melancholic intersections of chaotic beats and serrated guitars, the sound of “Secession in Astropolis” is energetic and bright, if at times still characteristically subdued and introspective.

With beats that range from the nu-Kraftwerk “Moving On,” to the tin pan drum’n’bass of “Cranes” and the dense electro of “Alternator”, the common thread throughout remains Monteverde’s trademark hauntingly melancholic vocals and thoughtful songwriting - the distinction now being that this voice is used as the human element that transports us in the minds of Astropolis’ citizenry, where each song illustrates their desire to accomplish greatness in utopia colliding with everyday drudgery (“The Lower Sector”), the failure of technology (“Home”), and the complexity of interpersonal relationships (“Hearts and Minds”).

**CAT NO:** ACT15  
**UPC:** 700261330648  
**STREET DATE:** Oct 31, 2011

### PRESS QUOTES:

#### Featured on NPR MUSIC

*“It’s hard to pin down Monteverde into any genre, but the one constant is his vocals. When he chooses to sing, he shows the same delicacy as Ben Gibbard and the same soul as Tae Won Yu. Enigmatic yet pleasing.”*  
– **Giant Robot**

*“Essential lo-fi bliss for anyone sick of cloying emo lyrics and cut-up juxtaposition.”*  
– **Illinois Entertainer**

*“More passion than purity, more brash than composed, the sound explodes out of the speakers.”*  
– **Grooves Magazine**

*“Quietly earnest folk-pop, narcoleptic electronica... jaw-dropping power.”*  
– **Splendid Magazine**

### FOR FANS OF:

*The Books, Sean Lennon, Boards of Canada, Postal Service, Field Mice, New Order, Caribou*