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ON DISC



Ivana Santilli

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IVANA SANTILLI PLAYS THE TD
CANADA TRUST TORONTO JAZZ
FESTIVAL AT REVIVAL (783
COLLEGE) JUNE 20.

If Tony is Santilli's "love song to old-school pop songwriting," the old school should issue a restraining order. Her lyrics, rather than evoking the playfulness of '70s and '80s pop, are lazy. Obtuse innuendos run rampant on songs like "Always Better" ("do anything for a slice of my pie") while clunky rhyme schemes ("Leave it Alone" matches "small" with "Neanderthal") literally make you want to tear your ears off. That said, there are hints of old favourites such as Bill Withers, Paula Abdul and Janet Jackson, and you may even catch yourself doing the hustle to disco throwback "Hollywood." But it's not long before synthesized beats and chimes fill in the gaps created since music moved out of the sample era. Even vocally, Santilli doesn't seem to be all there. Where did the jazzy touches and soulful lyrics found on Santilli's first album, *Brown*, go?

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