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Jean-Michel Pilc: True Story

By Mike Hobart

Published: April 10 2010 01:39 | Last updated: April 10 2010 01:39

Jean-Michel Pilc

True Story

Dreyfus Jazz

★★★★☆

The introspective opening track of the French-American pianist's recently recorded album is a curtain-raiser for more histrionic fair. His arrangement of Franz Schubert's "Relic" is a climactic arch based on a rising motif that opens and closes with a scattering of notes and "My Heart Belongs to Daddy" has a nice, slightly louche lilt.

The other selections are ruminative Pilc originals that fuse strong dynamics to sedate tempos and veer from gentle explorations of diatonic harmony to mid point, full-pedal thumps.

Drummer Billy Hart and Boris Kozlov on bass ably mark the changes.

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