



True Story - Jean-Michel Pilc (Dreyfus Jazz) - What a sweet collection of tunes make up Pilc's latest release. Flanked by **Boris Kozlov** (bass) and **Billy Hart** (drums), the pianist makes one sit up and listen from the opening notes of "*The Other Night*" (which has a similar set of cascading notes as a section of Dire Straits' "*Why*

Worry") through the classical strains of "*Mornings with Franz*" (dedicated to Schubert, whose work "*Relic*" is given a jazz arrangement elsewhere on the disk) to the dramatic tango rhythms of "*My Heart Belongs to Daddy*." Along the way, the Trio gets a bit Monkish on "*B.B.B.*" and takes a lovely and adventurous stroll through "*Try To Remember*" (from the long-running musical "*The Fantasticks*"). The work of Kozlov and Hart is impressive throughout - there's more than a hint of Keith Jarrett in the pianist's attack on "*PBH Factor*" and the bass and drums react with strength and glee. The title song is actually a 5-part suite that goes in many directions yet rarely gets loud. Hart's drum work on "*Scene 3*" and "*Scene 4*" is remarkable in its restraint and inventiveness. Much of this music is quiet but there is a power in the melodic inventions and rhythmic interplay. A lightness of spirit pervades many tracks (quite noticeable on "*High Sky - The Elegant Sky*") and the joyous interactions of the musicians really makes for delightful listening. For more information, go to www.jmpilc.com.