



IAN SHAW AND TONY KOFI

An Adventurous Dream: The Music Of Billy Strayhorn And Duke Ellington

PX Records PXRCD1010; LP: PXRLP1010 (two discs)

Singer and pianist Ian Shaw will be known to many for his long and happy duo partnership with singer Claire Martin; they even played at the *Hi-Fi News* show many years ago. But here, live at PizzaExpress, he delegates the piano duties to Barry Green in a programme with saxophonist Tony Kofi echoing Johnny Hodges, and Dave Green supporting on bass. Kofi is outstanding, especially on the instrumental tracks 'Isfahan' and 'Blood Count', while Shaw's vocals take us from the 1920s and 'Mood Indigo' through to a swinging, scatting 'Raincheck'. The show closes emotively with Strayhorn's 'Lush Life'. *SH*

Sound Quality: 80%

