

This World - CD Review - Jazzwise March 2020

**Mike Nock / Hamish Stuart / Julien Wilson /
Jonathan Zwartz**

This World

Lionsharerecords LSR20196 (CD) ****

Mike Nock (p), Julien Wilson (ts), Jonathan
Zwartz (b), and Hamish Stuart (d).
Rec. 29-30 June 2019

In February this year, this group embarked on a 14-date Australian tour to support the release of *This World*. The *Australian* newspaper reviewed their concert at the Australian Institute of Music in Sydney on 8 February and said: "The large audience, and this reviewer, were left speechless... a very hip audience experienced a rare musical conversation between four exceptional artists."

And yes, this is an exceptional record by an exceptional ensemble. Mike Nock has represented everything that is good about the Australian jazz scene for several decades now, Jonathan Zwartz recently impressed with his own highly recommended album *Animarum* which included both Wilson and Stuart. These players are well-known to each other and have developed an empathy that goes beyond learned and intuitive responses to each other's playing to a level that would fascinate students of the paranormal.

Masterfully expressive at slower tempos - for example, 'Home', 'And In The Night Comes Rain' and 'This World' - while elegantly resourceful as the music tips towards abstraction on 'Any Heart', this is profound, moving and expressive jazz of the highest level.

Stuart Nicholson