
BROTHER JACK MCDUFF

Tobacco Road

★★★★

SPEAKERS CORNER LP



Brother Jack, with his multi-faceted Hammond style, bridges the gap between the early '60s jazz organ of the likes of Georgie Fame and the later, more soulful sound favoured by players including Jimmy Smith. In fact, *Tobacco Road*, with its mix of covers, standards, and originals, really is a disc of two halves - the tracks recorded with a smaller line-up, including a terrific cover of Johnny Mandel's 'The Shadow Of Your Smile' and the funky jam of 'Wade In The Water' now feel more timeless, although it's hard not to love the off-the-wall interpretation the larger sax-heavy group makes of 'Blowin' In The Wind' and the languid, too-brief 'This Bitter Earth'.

Germany's Speakers Corner Records have a laudably purist approach to vinyl reissues - keep it analogue. And so this disc, remastered from the original tapes, not only looks and feels terrific but sounds as lively and present as it if was recorded yesterday.

Christopher Budd
