SJB SELECTION

REVIEW · JAZZ

Looking Up | Michel Petrucciani

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SJB SELECTION · NOVEMBER 2026

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“Looking Up” has movement.

Not agitation.

Movement.

The piano seems to keep launching itself forward, yet it retains absolute control of the form.

It's a **mighty lightness**.

The notes have bright colours; the phrases snap, leap and bounce, making energy seem almost a physical quality of the instrument.

The virtuosity is obvious.

But it isn't shown off like a trophy.

It is already absorbed into the language.

Like watching someone climb a staircase two steps at a time without losing their breath and realising only afterwards how hard it ought to be.

Petrucciani turns complexity into momentum.

The listener feels the effect before thinking about the technique.

> ***"Looking Up" reminds us that the most convincing virtuosity isn't the kind that makes us stare at the pianist's fingers. It's the kind that makes us forget them.***

LISTEN

Looking Up — Michel Petrucciani — is in our playlist Midnight Piano & Blue Notes.

Michel Petrucciani. Updated every Friday. Selected by ear.

LISTEN FIRST. SELECT SECOND.