

**Air,** Metro, 2013



Altogether brighter in mood, **Stepping Out** (Naive) is the debut full-length release from sharp dressed Brit singer/pianist Anthony Strong, who's hotly tipped to take his place in the retro contemporary jazz pantheon alongside Jamie Cullum and Michael Bublé. What's perhaps most impressive about this gleefully swinging disc is the way Strong's own compositions blend so seamlessly into the surrounding selection of classics by the likes of Cole Porter and Stevie Wonder. That's the sign of a major talent.