

# jazzwise

## NOVEMBER 2010

### **Sara Mitra**

#### April Song

Impossible Ark UnfoldCD 013 | ★★★

**Sara Mitra (v), Fulvio Sigurta (t), (fltn), James Allsopp (s, b cl), Philip Hochstrate (p, org), Riaan Vosloo (b), Tim Giles (d), Lucy Railton (cio) and Ross Stanley (Hammond org). Rec. date not given**

Mitra has the double talents of not only a quirkily attractive voice, but also not inconsiderable talents with the pen. She has also dragooned some equally fresh young talents to support her, including James Allsopp's wiry sax which is to the fore on the opening 'Jilted Woman Blues'. No surprise then that this melodic but wisely wry album has found a niche on BBC Radio 2. What Mitra lacks in a ballsy voice she

makes up for in a subtle sense of drama in her delivery. Like Gwyneth Herbert she acts out her songs and mixes a Blossom Dearie-like intonation with mockney exclamations and folkish tangs. Her musings on motherhood are also a refreshing mix of the real and romantic. It can get all a bit earnestly existential, as on 'The Choice', but at her best she has a sweet 'n' sultry pop feel, as on 'Let Me Love You', or the good fun 'Baby And Me' which would be no mean single, and again echoes Gwyneth Herbert's sense of joy.

Andy Robson



Sara Mitra