

Jack Walrath Review Quotes

"Here's the real fusion music, a cunning, good-natured synthesis of jazz, blues, rock and classical music by master trumpeter Jack Walrath. His playing has the articulate sarcasm of a Lee Morgan, his writing reflects the eclecticism and bravura of his former mentor Charles Mingus." "....every style is navigated with maximum authenticity, instrumental prowess and humor. Check it out." — Chip Stern Musician

"He balances grand, sometimes even overwrought ideas, with a delightfully twisted sense of humor. If Oliver Nelson was arranger-cum-historian, then Walrath's second calling must be as a standup comic." "To Walrath, a change isn't just a new chord, it's style, tempo and dynamics, too." "Both Demons and Ray Charles on Mars unite Walrath's Motown past and jazz present, mixing the broad wails of a revue with squalls of improvisation...." — Downbeat

"Walrath's Mingus credentials are enough to make a believer out of me, but he continues to pump out first-rate and uncompromisingly musical LPs....From what I hear, Walrath is sure hand (lipped?) at the top and bottom of his horn, has a penetrating open sound and a pleasing muted one. He writes lines with charm and originality and makes appropriate use of the trumpet's jazz history in his improvisations." "All in all, Walrath, along with Warren Vache' and Wynton Marsalis, is helping to bring the trumpet back to center stage. Happy times are here again ... maybe." — Alan Bargebuhr Cadence

"Jack Walrath hates clichés but he loves the jazz tradition....lots of arresting twists ... the solos splinter the pet phrases of a whole range of styles --- old-time blues to new-time hues and cries." "....this music is better than good." — Owen Cordle Downbeat

"Perhaps it is the rhythm and blues experience that gives Walrath's music its unpretentiousness and drive." — Stereo Review

"....his writing reflects the broad Ellington/Mingus scope a dozen postures and styles." — Peter Watrous Musician

"....an intriguing new outing.....the music --- a mixture of postbop and avant-garde --- is first rate!" — New York Daily News

"....super hip inventive arrangements that range in style from modern bop to avant-garde." — Christian Science Monitor

"He used to write for my band. Jack is like a chameleon." — Red Rodney Blindfold Test Downbeat