

THE OBSERVER - *Album review*

JAZZ by Dave Gelly

There are all kinds of jazz singing, but the kind that most people enjoy is the one where a jazz treatment lifts an already good song a few inches off the ground and sets it swinging. That is Julia Farino's style and she does it very well.

Her cool voice and clear, direct phrasing fit effortlessly into all kinds of settings – swing, ballad, Latin, even Dixieland – and in every case the words and music sound as though they belong together, which is not as common as you might think.

The accompaniments vary from a trio to a 10 piece band, all excellently played by some of London's finest. Most of the arrangements are by bassist David Moses, who also reveals himself to be a very decent songwriter.

There are dozens of vocal CDs coming out these days, but I do hope this one doesn't get lost in the rush.