

NEW ISSUES

Ben Street, b; Bill Stewart, d.
Nov 5, 2009, Brooklyn, NY.

an understated, slightly abstruse quality, with much depth and creativity at and just below the surface. Like his compositions, Lund's guitar playing has a very natural virtuosity, aligning well with pianist Simon, bassist Street, and drummer Stewart on Lund's program of imaginative melodies with unusual and intriguing harmonies and



Tom Harrell by Gerard Futrick

rich rhythmic undercurrents. Performances are expansive, with cuts averaging over eight minutes, and include thought pieces ("Truckstop Queen" and "Life at the Bottom of a Lake"), uptempo vehicles ("12 Beats" and "Drum"), and a playful romp ("Folly").

Don Lerman

RYAN KAUFFMAN THREE LITTLE WORDS

RYAN KAUFFMAN NO #

*THREE LITTLE WORDS / WARM
AIR RISES / SHENANDOAH / YES
BOSSA / HOOSIER DADDY / TO
ASK / LA CAMBA. 35:41.*

Kauffman, ss, ts; Matt Hochmiller,
p; Steve Meashey, b; Chris Loser,
d. Dec 14, 2009, Reading, PA.

A nice straight-ahead offering from some good players from the Pennsylvania Dutch country. Leader Ryan Kauffman plays fluid, sure-footed lines on his saxes with a fine tone on each. The rhythm section is also solid, with pianist Matt Hochmiller revealing an interesting mainstream modern phraseology of his own. Drummer Chris Loser provides bright, crisp accompaniment while bassist Steve Meashey anchors the proceedings with a strong sound and a firm beat. Kauffman wrote most of the tunes and arranged the traditional "Shenandoah." "Hoosier Daddy" is his clever title for an inventive melodic, harmonic, and rhythmic reworking of the chestnut "Indiana," complete with a reference to the Bop anthem "Donna Lee."

David Franklin