



THE SUNDAY TIMES

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NEW ORLEANS JAZZ ORCHESTRA Book One

★★★★

World Village 468079



Irvin Mayfield's band may not have the highest of profiles over here, but, on this evidence, it deserves to be taken just as seriously as the deluxe Lincoln Center outfit led by that much more famous Crescent City trumpeter Wynton Marsalis. The shadow of Hurricane Katrina falls across a set whose plush upholstery evokes memories of Basie on the swaggering 7th Ward Blues. There's a welcome shot of gallows humour, too, on the quicksilver Somebody Forgot to Turn the Faucet Off (Probably Steve), while Richie Can Count pokes fun at Wall Street: the cry of "Bail me out, boys!" ought to guarantee it a place on Robert Peston's iPod. **CD**