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# new music

NEWLY RELEASED COMPACT DISCS

**Kal**

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Asphalt Tango/Fusion III

This hip band from Serbia has lots of fun with innovative sounds on traditional instruments, combining Gypsy folk melodies with a rock attitude and electronic grooves. Violin and guitar weep in a song called Lili, an accordion lends tango flavours to another, a waltz tempo here, some fast rap and bhangra rhythms there. An admirer of Manu Chao's mix-and-match repertoire of disparate sounds, the composer, songwriter and Kal co-founder Dragan Ristic manages to stay true to Romany culture. But fuelled with urban beats, Kal's music for dance-floor rebels is fresh and unbelievably good.

★★★★½

CHARLIE FIDELMAN