

# The Gazette



**JOOLS HOLLAND AND  
MARC ALMOND - A LOVELY  
LIFE TO LIVE**

★★★★★

JOOLS HOLLAND and Marc Almond have delivered big band-backed numbers, a handful of covers - including a jazzy version of Tainted Love - and a smattering of original tracks, each following that tried and tested jazz/blues formula.



Every new song sounds instantly familiar and Almond's charmingly distinctive vocal adds a slightly edgier vibe to the record.

Their reworked take on Tainted Love instantly makes you wonder if the track was written to be a jazz number in the first place, and Almond truly shines on Edith Piaf's Hymne A L'Amour.

I Lost My City, an original song about the duo's love affair with London, is formulaic but on point. You can practically smell the cigarette smoke and whiskey in an old jazz and blues bar in the Downtown of somewhere or other.