

Lacklustre gig

By IFAN PAYNE

REVIEW

THIS WAS not one of the more successful evenings at Cardiff's Four Bars Inn. On Tuesday evening the Iains were advertised to appear, at this jazz spot, fronted by the brilliant keyboardist Django Bates.

In the event, the wunderkind took himself off to tour elsewhere with Joe Henderson and we were left with a rearranged Iains comprising Iain Ballamy on sax, bass-player Hein Van Der Geyn and drummer Steve Arguelles.

This group soon lapsed into a predictable and unadventurous sequence in which verbal communication with the audience was non-existent and musical communication hardly better.

I was, in fact, in the act of writing in my notes that the playing was "cool and self-effacing" when one of the more brazen members of the audience cried out "speed up the tempo, then, boys!"

All in all, though, the trio lacked projection and the resolute silence at the end of most of the solos appeared to indicate that the audience was also underwhelmed