

Jazz Presentation



What is Jazz?

Definition

Jazz is characterized by swing and blue notes, call and response vocals, polyrhythms and improvisation.



When and where did it originate?

It originated in the late 19th and early 20th Century in the African- American communities of New Orleans, United States.

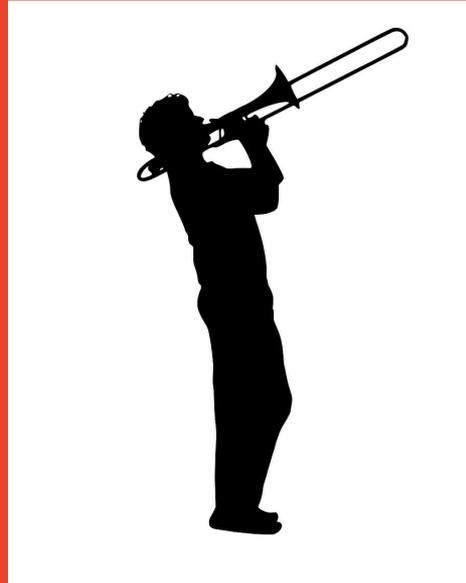
Jazz Styles



Pre-Jazz Influences

Brass Band

- 1809-1900
- Ensemble 10-12 musicians: trumpets, cornets, alto/ baritone horns, tuba, clarinet, drums
- Repertoire: rags, marches, dances (parade music)



Ragtime

- 1890- 1920
- Solo piano
- Left hands plays the strong beats while the right hand plays syncopated melody
- Music is wholly composed with no improvisation

Jazz Styles



Traditional Jazz

New Orleans Style

- 1900-1920
- Ensemble chorus and improvisation
- Melody section:
 - Cornet/ trumpet playing the melody, Clarinet playing the counter melody, and trombone playing the harmonic countermelody
- Rhythm section:
 - Banjo, Tuba, and Drums

Chicago Style

- 1920-1930
- Tenor saxophone added to ensemble and the guitar replaces the banjo
- Solo improvisation instead of emphasis to ensemble

Jazz Styles

Pre-Swing and Big Band Swing



Classic City Blues

- 1920-1935
- Came around the time when African Americans migrated North
- Jazz singers would be accompanied by jazz bands
- One specific element for this time would be call and response

Big Band Swing

- 1925-1945
- Ensemble consist of 14-16 musicians: trumpet, trombone, saxophone, and rhythm
- Controlled and organized solo 'improvisation' in a chordal style
- Each has a 'trademark' style depending on the band leader

Jazz Styles

Bebop & Cool Jazz

Bebop

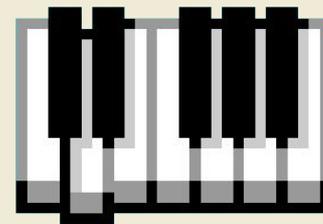
- 1945-1955
- Small ensemble of four or five musicians: Saxophone, trumpet, piano, bass, drums
- Has fast and complex rhythms and heavy syncopation
- Format: chorus plays in unison, improvisation, then first chorus at the end

Cool

- 1950-1960
- Ensemble of 3-8 players: French horn, flute, cello, vibraphone
- Unique sonority, delicate attacks, little or no vibrato
- Overlapping phrases- one player begins a solo before the other finishes



Jazz Styles



Fusion, Eclectic, and More

Free Jazz

- 1960-1970
- The ultimate in improvisation
 - The musician perform as the ensemble reacts to what is being played

Fusion

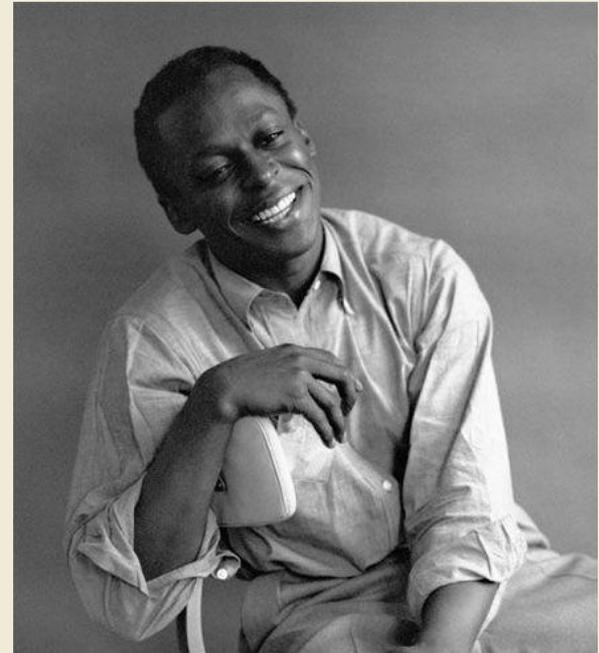
- 1970-1990
- Mixture of R&B
- Derived from non-western music
- Improvisation

Eclectic

- 1970-2000
- Continue big band
- Latin and Hispanic influences
 - Afro-Cuban
 - Salsa
- Rock Influences

Miles Davis

- May 26, 1926- September 28,1991
- Years Active: 1944- 1975 & 1980 - 1991
- An American Jazz Trumpeter, bandleader, and Composer
- Studied at Julliard before dropping out to become a full time performer
- He participated in several quintets
- His style help create bebop Jazz
- Well known song:
 - “Stella by Starlight“
 - <https://youtu.be/FJDO7RkL5uA>



Louis Armstrong

- August 4, 1901: July 6, 1971
- Years Active_ 1919- 1971
- Nicknames: Satchmo, Satch, Pops
- An American trumpeter, composer, vocalist, and actor
- His career spanned five decades: 1920s to 1960s
- Had a very distinctive voice and influential improviser
- Very known for his scat singing
- Well known song:
 - “What a Wonderful World“
 - <https://youtu.be/CWzrABouyeE>



Duke Ellington

- April 29, 1899 - May 24, 1974
- Years Active: 1914 - 1974
- American composer, pianist, and leader of a Jazz orchestra
- There were more than a thousand compositions for the three minute 78 rpm recording format
- Some of the jazz musicians who were members of Ellington's orchestra are considered to be among the best players in the idiom.
- Well known songs:
 - "Solitude"
 - <https://youtu.be/nV3A5FjFjeg>



John Coltrane

- September 23, 1926 - July 17, 1967
- Years Active: 1945 - 1967
- An American Jazz Saxophonist and Composer
- Started off in the bebop and hard bop idioms before being the forefront of free jazz
- His music took on an increasingly spiritual saxophonist in music history
- Well Known Songs:
 - “My Favorite Things”
 - <https://youtu.be/NWYWgda5f0I>



Ella Fitzgerald

- April 25, 1917 - June 15, 1996
- Years Active: 1934 - 1993
- An American Jazz Singer
- Nicknames: First Lady of Song, Queen of Jazz, and Lady Ella
- Very known for her specific tone, impeccable diction, phrasing, timing, intonations, “horn- like” improvisational ability, and scat singing
- Also appeared in movies and guest on popular television shows
- Well Known Songs:
 - “A tisket A Tasket“
 - <https://youtu.be/1bgFkeDLpSI>



Charlie Parker

- August 29, 1920-March 12, 1955
- An American Jazz Saxophone player and composer
- Nicknames: Yardbird and Bird
- Was known to be involved in the development of “Bebop” and was well known for his talent as a jazz soloist.
- Miles Davis once said that Charlie Parker was defined in the history of jazz.

- Well Known Songs:
 - “I’ve Got Rhythm”
 - <https://youtu.be/Ajzi5ohvilk>



Billie Holiday

- April 7, 1915 - July 17, 1959
- YearsActive: 1933 - 1959
- An American Jazz Singer
- Nicknames: Lady Day
- She was lots of influence on jazz music and pop singing by her manipulation of phrasing and tempos
- She is known for her vocal style which was influenced by jazz instruments and improvisational skills
- Well Known Songs:
 - “God Bless the Child“
 - <https://youtu.be/Wc4JvGfRLpA>



Bill Evans

- August 16, 1929 - September 15, 1980
- Years Active: 1950s - 1980
- An American Jazz pianist and composer who mostly played in Trios
- His use of impressionist harmony, inventive interpretation of traditional jazz repertoire, block chords, and trademark rhythmically independent, "singing" melodic lines continue to influence jazz pianists today.
- Well Known Songs:
 - "My Foolish Heart"
 - <https://youtu.be/a2LFVWBmoiw>



Oscar Peterson

- August 15, 1925 - December 23, 2007
- Years Active: 1945- 2007
- A Canadian jazz pianist and composer
- Nicknames: Maharaja of the Keyboard and “O.P”
- He released over 200 recordings, won eight Grammy Awards, and received numerous other awards and honours.
- Well Known Songs:
 - Take the “A” Train
 - <https://youtu.be/GD1Np9DpjYo>



Citations

<https://www.preceden.com/timelines/32210-jazz-history>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Miles_Davis

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