

Charlie Parker - Now's The Time [Back Up] (2004)

Written by bluesever

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01. Confirmation
02. I Remember You
03. Now's The Time
04. Chi-Chi
05. Laird Baird
06. Cosmic Rays
07. Kim
08. The Song Is You
09. Star Eyes
10. I'm In The Mood For Love
11. Blues [Fast]
12. The Bird
13. Ballade
14. Celebrity
15. Cardboard
16. Visa
17. My Melancholy Baby
18. Bloomdido
19. Leap Frog
20. An Oscar For Treadwell
21. Relaxin' With Lee
22. Mohawk

Hank Jones - Piano Charlie Parker - Sax (Alto) Thelonious Monk - Piano Curly Russell - Bass Carlos Vidal - Conga Tommy Turk - Trombone Coleman Hawkins - Sax (Tenor) Teddy Kotick - Bass Percy Heath - Bass Ray Brown - Bass Kenny Dorham - Trumpet Dizzy Gillespie - Trumpet Al Haig - Piano Shelly Manne - Drums Buddy Rich - Drums Max Roach - Drums Tommy Potter - Bass

A legendary figure in jazz, and deservedly so: one of the first beboppers, he was that genre's

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foremost improviser, spinning out lovely, often bizarre melodic runs. His compositions, like most early bop, were usually based on either blues or "I Got Rhythm" changes, but many have melody lines so impressive they're still recorded today. I have no idea how to review Parker's output.

This is a Verve release, and it's actually well-organized: the tracks are two complete quartet dates, from 1952 and 1953. None of the material is available on Very Best Of Bird, and most of it's excellent: "Confirmation" and the title track are the best known. The quartet format leaves Parker maximum space to improvise, and some of the tunes don't even have themes: he just blows from start to finish. Verve could have given you a lot more for your money, though: the disc runs less than forty minutes, and about half of that is outtakes. --- warr.org

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