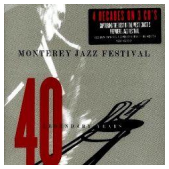
Monterey Jazz Festival - 40 Legendary Years 1958–1996 [1997]



CD 1 *01. Dizzy Gillespie & Jimmy Lyons – Opening/Star Spangled Banner 02. Dave Brubeck - For All We Know 03. Billie Holiday - Fine and Mellow 04. Gerry Mulligan - Blueport 05. Cannonball Adderley - Blue Daniel 06. Thelonious Monk - Straight No Chaser 07. Duke Ellington - Chelsea Bridge 08. Charles Mingus - Don't Let It Happen Here 09. Oscar Peterson - Younger Than Springtime 10. Carmen McRae - I Wish I Knew 11. Dizzy Gillespie & Jon Faddis - Manteca* CD 2 *01. Modern Jazz Quartet - 'Round Midnight 02. Bill Evans - Up with the Lark 03. Dizzy Gillespie - Tribute to Ralph Gleason 04. Count Basie - I Needs to Be Bee'd 05. Joe Williams - Goin' to Chicago 06. Art Blakey - Along Came Betty 07. Dexter Gordon - Fried Bananas 08. Stan Getz & Woody Herman - What Are You Doing the Rest of Your Life? 09. Freddie Hubbard - Little Sunflower* CD 3 *01. Wynton Marsalis - Think of One 02. Sarah Vaughan - If You Could See Me Now 03. Roy Hargrove - My Shining Hour 04. Shirley Horn - I've Got the World on a String 05. Sonny Rollins - Keep Hold of Yourself 06. Chick Corea - I Loves You, Porgy 07. Joshua Redman - Home Fries 08. Herbie Hancock - Cantaloupe Island*

This fascinating three-CD set has 28 performances (all but the Billie Holiday number were previously unreleased) taken from the Monterey Jazz Festival and programmed in chronological order. Starting with Dizzy Gillespie playing an unaccompanied version of "The Star Spangled Banner" that opened the very first festival and progressing up until the 1996 edition, there are many memorable selections. Billie Holiday is assisted by Gerry Mulligan on "Fine and Mellow." Mulligan and Art Farmer team up for an excellent version of "Blueport" that almost but not quite reaches the heights of Jeru's 1960 big-band version. Thelonious Monk is heard in 1964 playing "Straight No Chaser" with a workshop group; there are solos by his longtime tenor Charlie Rouse and altoist Buddy Collette, and a long one by trumpeter Bobby Bryant. In one of their earliest meetings, Dizzy Gillespie (still in his prime in 1973) teams up with 20-year-old trumpeter Jon Faddis on "Manteca." Count Basie's band (with trombonist Al Grey) sounds inspired on "I Needs to Be Bee'd With," as does Joe Williams, who sings the full-length version of "Goin' to Chicago." Wynton Marsalis in 1983 reinvents Thelonious Monk's "Think of One," while Sarah Vaughan sounds typically miraculous on "If You Could See Me Now." The colorful release ends

with four outstanding tenor solos: Sonny Rollins on the cooking blues "Keep Hold of Yourself," Bob Berg taking a strong cadenza on "I Loves You, Porgy" with Chick Corea, Joshua Redman having a good time on "Home Fries," and Craig Handy emerging as the main voice on Herbie Hancock's "Cantaloupe Island." Recommended. --- Scott Yanow, Rovi

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