## Charlie Parker – Bird Symbols (1961)

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01. Moose The Mooche 02. Yardbird Suite 03. Ornithology 04. A Night In Tunisia (excerpt) Miles Davis (tp) Charlie Parker (as) Lucky Thompson (ts) Dodo (The Famous Alto Break) Marmarosa (p) Arvin Garrison (g) Vic McMillan (b) Roy Porter (d) Radio Recorders, Hollywood, CA, March 28, 1946 05. Bird's Nest 06. Cool Blues (Hot Blues) (Ornithology) Charlie Parker (as) play Erroll Garner (p) Red Callender (b) Doc West (d) C.P. MacGregor Studios, Hollywood, CA, February 19, 1947 07. Bird Of Paradise 08. Embraceable You Miles Davis (tp) Charlie Parker (as) Duke Jordan (p) Tommy Potter (b) Max Roach (d) WOR Studios, NYC, October 28, 1947 09. My Old Flame (Blue Lamp) 10. Scrapple From The Apple 11. Out Of Nowhere 12. Don't Blame Me Dial play same personnel WOR Studios, NYC, November 4, 1947

The sound quality on this album of Parker's Dial mid-'40s Dial material lacks the precision and clarity of his later Verve sessions. Much of the original source material disappeared when Dial went out of business, and, from the remaining masters, a good deal has been lost in the subsequent transfer and re-issue. Still, barring some distortion and a kind of hollow, muffled quality, Parker is in superior form as an artist on these tracks. The mid-'40s seems to be the time Bird hit his stride, and these tracks serve as no subtle reminder that Parker was not only a great innovator, but an incredibly emotional and soulful player, a fact often overshadowed by his technical prowess.

These qualities are highlighted in the collection's ballads "Embracable You," "Out of Nowhere," and "Don't Blame Me," while breakneck bebop workouts are represented as well in "Moose the Mooche," "Bird's Nest" and the dizzying "Ornithology." Parker is joined by a young Miles Davis

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on many of these sessions, whose acerbic, forward-thinking style provides wonderful balance to Parker's fluid alto. While the sound quality may not be pristine, these are still fine performances; and of interest to Parker collectors searching for his harder-to-procure Dial sessions. ---Rovi

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