

Quincy Jones and His Orchestra - Songs for Pussycats (1965)

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1. *What's New Pussycat?* 2. *A Taste of Honey* 3. *Sermonette* 4. *A Walk in the Black Forest* 5. *Mack The Knife* 6. *Moon River* 7. *Take Five* 8. *Gravy Waltz* 9. *I Hear A Symphony* 10. *Mr. Lucky* 11. *Cast Your Fate to the Wind*

Released in 1965, Quincy Plays for Pussycats is a bright, cheeky big-band album done in a more commercial pop style than previous Quincy Jones albums. Nonetheless, there's plenty to enjoy here. From the hipster reworking of the Tom Jones hit "What's New Pussycat?" to the buoyant lounge music version of "The Hucklebuck," this is swinging '60s jazz for the martini set. ---Matt Collar, AllMusic Review

Very groovy stuff from Quincy – a mix of jazz, soundtrack, and popular themes, all done in that soulful swinging style that Quincy virtually helped invent back in the 60s! The album's got plenty of great groovers that take a popular tune and kind of turn it on its ear – takes on tracks like "What's New Pussycat", "Non-Stop To Brazil", "The In Crowd", "Mack The Knife", "The Gentle Rain", and "Satisfaction" – all of which are souped-up by Quincy, and done in a rhythmic style that takes them past familiar versions you might know. The album also features the very groovy "Blues For Trumpet & Koto" – a slightly exotic number that we really like! --- dustygroove.com

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