

1959 - "The Year That Changed Jazz" Assignment

Answer the following questions below. Use the timestamps below to assist you – the answers can be found at precisely that point. Even though some of the questions seem redundant, just go with them.

- 1) 0:00 – In which year were four enormous albums released? _____. What were the albums and who released them? (title/artist)

- _____ - _____
- _____ - _____
- _____ - _____
- _____ - _____

Part I – *Kind of Blue*

- 2) 2:43 - *Kind of Blue* holds this distinct honour in Jazz

- 3) 4:23 – What is unique about this recording session? Particularly with regards to the number of takes recorded?

- 4) 7:05 – How does Herbie Hancock think that *Kind of Blue* changed jazz?

- 5) 9:05 – Miles had been honing his sound for *Kind of Blue* for decades, how/where did he start?

- 6) 9:25 – How would you describe “bebop” jazz? (in your words or not)

- 7) 10:20 – How did Miles learn bebop? _____

- 8) 11:52 – What do all four big albums from this year have in common? (According to the speaker)

Part 2 – *Time Out*

- 1) 12:32 - What is particularly unique about *Time Out*? _____

- 2) 12:43 - What is the single from the album? What do its name and its time signature have in common? And what distinct honour does it have?

- 3) 13:30 – The new style of music wasn't the conflict in the ensemble, it was two of the people in it. Who were at odds with each other in the group? _____
- 4) 15:40 – Why was this music so popular in the United States?

- 5) 16:25 – How did the rest of the Jazz community view Dave Brubeck? And of what did they accuse him?

- 6) 18:10 – What new problems did the bassist, Eugene Wright, add to the group? Describe the situation that Brubeck talks about.

Part 3 – *Mingus Ah Um*

- 1) 20:40 – How does the speaker (Stanley Crouch) describe Mingus's view on style? Which one-liner/catchphrase does he use (21:13)? What does Mingus want for his band mates?

- 2) 22:50 – What is it about the album that makes it a true classic? _____

- 3) 23:45 – List three things that Charles Mingus had that were "big" _____

- 4) 26:40 – What was one of the biggest contributing factors to why Mingus was called “The Angry Man of Jazz?” _____
- 5) 27:08 – With *Mingus Ah Um*, he began to be respected not only as a jazz bassist, but as a composer as well. What are some of the words that his wife uses to describe his music? _____

Part 4 – *The Shape of Jazz to Come*

- 1) 28:50 – Describe how bassist Charlie Haden met Ornette Coleman and how it inspired them to team up.

- 2) 31:30 – What is Ornette Coleman’s approach to playing jazz? _____

Part 5 – The Aftermath (Long Answer)

- 1) Which album is your favourite? Why? _____

- 2) Which musician is your favourite? Why? _____

- 3) Which stories resonate the most with you? Why? _____

Part 6 – Select An Album...

- 1) Pick an album and listen to it **in its entirety** (they’re all on YouTube). In ½ written page, address why you picked it, which is your favourite song, your favourite solo, and any general thoughts you have on the album. For example: is this your first real experience with jazz? Is this the first time you’ve listened to jazz for any extended period of time? Have you ever really listened to a solo before? Have you ever thought that there are stories attached to a particular album (either in the making of it or in its release)? Have you ever thought about how music can change culture, or comment on the world at the time?