



BILLIE HOLIDAY

Since my early childhood, I've been crazy about Jazz. This childhood fascination is what inspired me to create Dreyfus Jazz.

I am releasing these masterpieces in order to discover, through another perspective, a collection of the most beautiful tracks ever recorded before 1960 by the biggest and most renowned creators of the lively and flawless language of jazz.

Who is this anthology for?

It's for those who already love Jazz, and for those who will find great pleasure in re-discovering it, thanks to the sound quality that is unexpected and unequalled. It's also for the younger generation who don't yet realize that they are going to love this music that burnt down from its creative violence and its jubilant swing throughout the entire twentieth century.

First, I had to achieve the near impossible: "Break the wall of sound" in order to enhance the already sublime tracks of yesterday... to make them sound as though they'd been recorded yesterday. Thanks to technological information storage and the resolute research of exceptional sound engineer René Ameline (with never ending passion and patience) it was possible to give a "new youth" to the voice of Ella and Billie, and to offer an unheard freshness to formidable improvisations by Louis Armstrong and Coleman Hawkins. We have included the best sources, the best songs, the best documents and there were no "second takes" or "false starts".

I wanted to start from the original signals inscribed deeply in the wax, to enlarge and enrich the entire sound spectrum until it was inaudible and mute. It was necessary to carefully clean each chosen song, meaning that every useless scratch and annoying click had to be wiped, whilst avoiding stripping away the original grainy sound. With this we were able to achieve a more spacious sound, offering more depth and fullness compared to the original 78 record collection. The result is spectacular!

This collection is truly unique. From the will of a passionate perfectionist who manifested its conception like bearing a child, it was championed by a team of specialists who are lovers of jazz in all its dimensions: Claude Carrière, Noël Hervé and Daniel Nevers.

To really define the spirit of this adventure, which has lasted almost two years, I cannot think of a better way to conclude but to quote Claude Debussy: "Finally, a savage music with modern comfort"!

FRANCIS DREYFUS

- 1. LOVE ME OR LEAVE ME** (W. Donaldson - G. Kahn) 03:19
Billie Holiday with Teddy Wilson and His Orchestra:
Emmett Berry (tp), Jimmy Hamilton (cl), Hymie Schertzer
(cl, as), Babe Russin (ts), Teddy Wilson (p), Al Casey (g),
John Williams (b), J. C. Heard (d) **New York, 7 Aug. 1941**
- 2. I'LL BE SEEING YOU** (S. Fain - I. Kahal) 03:31
Billie Holiday with Eddie Heywood and His Orchestra:
Doc Cheatham (tp), Vic Dickenson (tb), Lem Davis (as),
Eddie Heywood (p), John Simmons (b), Sidney Catlett (d)
New York, 1 April 1944
- 3. YOU'RE MY THRILL** (S. Clare - J. Gorney) 03:22
Billie Holiday with Gordon Jenkins and His Orchestra:
Bobby Hackett (tp), Milton Yaner (cl, as), John Fulton (fl,
cl, ts), Bernice Leighton (p), Tony Mottola (g), Jack Lesberg
(b), Norris "Bunny" Shawker (d), plus five strings
New York, 19 Oct. 1949
- 4. YOU GO TO MY HEAD** (H. Gillespie - J. F. Coots) 02:53
*Billie Holiday and Her Orchestra: Charlie Shavers (tp),
Buster Bailey (cl), Babe Russin (ts), Billy Kyle (p), Danny
Barker (g), John Kirby (b), Cozy Cole (d)*
New York, 11 May 1938
- 5. GEORGIA ON MY MIND** (H. Carmichael - S. Gorell) 03:15
Billie Holiday with Eddie Heywood and His Orchestra:
Shad Collins (tp), Leslie Johnakins, Eddie Barefield (as),
Lester Young (ts), Eddie Heywood (p), John Collins (g),
Ted Sturgis (b), Kenny Clarke (d)
New York, 21 March 1941
- 6. NIGHT AND DAY** (C. Porter) 03:00
*Billie Holiday and Her Orchestra: Buck Clayton, Harry
Edison (tp), Earle Warren, Jack Washington (as), Lester
Young (ts), Joe Sullivan (p), Freddie Green (g), Walter
Page (b), Jo Jones (d)* **New York, 13 Dec. 1939**
- 7. WHEN YOU'RE SMILING**
(M. Fisher - J. Goodwin - L. Shay) 02:51
Billie Holiday with Teddy Wilson and His Orchestra:
Buck Clayton (tp), Benny Morton (tb), Lester Young (ts),
Teddy Wilson (p), Freddie Green (g), Walter Page (b),
Jo Jones (d) **New York, 6 Jan. 1938**
- 8. THE MAN I LOVE** (I. Gershwin - G. Gershwin) 03:07
Same as 6 **New York, 13 Dec. 1938**
- 9. IF I WERE YOU** (B. Bernier - R. D. Emmerrich) 02:23
Same as 4 **New York, 11 May 1938**
- 10. STRANGE FRUIT** (L. Allan) 03:12
Billie Holiday with Eddie Heywood and His Orchestra:
Frankie Newton (tp), Tab Smith (as), Kenneth Hollon,
Stan Payne (ts), Sonny White (p), Jimmy McLin (g),
John Williams (b), Eddie Dougherty (d)
New York, 20 April 1939
- 11. I'VE GOT MY LOVE TO KEEP ME WARM** (I. Berlin) 02:56
*Billie Holiday and Her Orchestra: Jonah Jones (tp),
Edgar Sampson (cl, as), Ben Webster (ts), Teddy Wilson
(p), Alan Reuss (g), John Kirby (b), Cozy Cole (d)*
New York, 12 Jan. 1937

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- 12. AM I BLUE** (H. Akst - G. Clarke) 02:49
*Billie Holiday and Her Orchestra: Roy Eldridge (tp),
Ernie Powell (cl, ts), Lester Boone, Jimmy Powell (as),
Eddie Heywood (p), Paul Chapman (g), Grachan Moncur
(b), Herbert Cowens (d)* **New York, 9 May 1941**
- 13. LET'S CALL THE WHOLE THING OFF**
(I. Gershwin - G. Gershwin) 02:35
*Billie Holiday and Her Orchestra: Eddie Tomkins (tp),
Buster Bailey (cl), Joe Thomas (ts), Teddy Wilson (p),
Carmen Mastren (g), John Kirby (b), Alphonse Steele (d)*
New York, 1 April 1937
- 14. BODY AND SOUL**
(J. Green - E. Heyman - R. Sour - F. Eyton) 02:58
*Billie Holiday and Her Orchestra: Roy Eldridge (tp),
Jimmy Powell (cl), Carl Frye (as), Kermit Scott (ts),
Sonny White (p), Lawrence Lucie (g), John Williams (b),
Harold "Doc" West (d)* **New York, 29 Feb. 1940**
- 15. THEY CAN'T TAKE THAT AWAY FROM ME**
(I. Gershwin - G. Gershwin) 03:01
Same as 13 **New York, 1 April 1937**
- 16. I'VE GOT A DATE WITH A DREAM**
(M. Gordon - H. Revel) 02:41
*Billie Holiday and Her Orchestra: Buck Clayton (tp),
Dicky Wells (tb), Lester Young (cl), Margaret "Countess"
Johnson (p), Freddie Green (g), Walter Page (b),
Jo Jones (d)* **New York, 15 Sep. 1938**
- 17. JIM** (N. Shawn - C. Petrillo - M. Samuels) 03:07
Same as 1 **New York, 7 Aug. 1941**
- 18. CRAZY HE CALLS ME** (C. Sigman - B. Russell) 03:02
Same as 3 **New York, 18 Oct. 1949**
- 19. DO NOTHING 'TILL YOU HEAR FROM ME /
I'LL GET BY**
(D. Ellington - B. Russell / R. Turk - F. E. Ahlert) 04:59
*Billie Holiday with the All-Star Jam Band: Roy Eldridge
(tp), Jack Teagarden (tb), Barney Bigard (cl), Coleman
Hawkins (ts), Art Tatum (p), Al Casey (g), Oscar Pettiford
(b), Sidney Catlett (d)* **New York, 18 Jan. 1944**
- 20. I LOVE MY MAN (BILLIE'S BLUES)** (B. Holiday) 04:07
Same as 19 **New York, 18 Jan. 1944**

Deepest Respect to: Francis Dreyfus, René Ameline.
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