



LESTER YOUNG

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. ALMOST LIKE BEING IN LOVE** (A. Jay Lerner - F. Loewe) 03:33
Lester Young (ts), Oscar Peterson (p), Barney Kessel (g),
Ray Brown (b), J. C. Heard (d) **New York, 28 Nov. 1952**
- 2. ON THE SUNNY SIDE OF THE STREET** (D. Fields - J. McHugh) 03:28
Same as 1 **New York, 28 Nov. 1952**
- 3. AD LIB BLUES** (L. Young - O. Peterson) 05:57
Lester Young (ts), Oscar Peterson (p), Barney Kessel (g),
Ray Brown (b), J. C. Heard (d) **New York, 28 Nov. 1952**
- 4. SLOW MOTION BLUES** (L. Young) 02:56
Lester Young (ts), John Lewis (p), Gene Ramey (b),
Jo Jones (d) **New York, 8 March 1951**
- 5. IN A LITTLE SPANISH TOWN** (S. Lewis - M. Wayne - J. Young) 03:15
Same as 4 **New York, 8 March 1951**
- 6. STARDUST** (H. Garmichael - M. Parish) 03:36
Same as 1 **New York, 28 Nov. 1952**
- 7. A FOGGY DAY** (G. Gershwin - I. Gershwin) 02:50
Same as 4 **New York, 8 March 1951**
- 8. THERE WILL NEVER BE ANOTHER YOU** (H. Warren - M. Gordon) 03:27
Same as 1 **New York, 28 Nov. 1952**
- 9. JUST YOU, JUST ME** (J. Greer - R. Klages) 07:45
Same as 1 **New York, 28 Nov. 1952**
- 10. I CAN'T GET STARTED** (I. Gershwin - V. Duke) 03:39
Same as 1 **New York, 28 Nov. 1952**
- 11. MEAN TO ME** (R. Turk - F. Alhert) 04:09
Lester Young (ts), Nat King Cole (p), Buddy Rich (d)
Hollywood, March/April 1946
- 12. I'VE FOUND A NEW BABY** (S. Williams - J. Palmer) 04:05
Same as 11 **Hollywood, March/April 1946**
- 13. SOMETIMES I'M HAPPY** (I. Caesar - V. Youmans) 03:14
Lester Young (ts), Johnny Guarnieri (p), Slam Stewart (b),
Sidney Catlett (d) **New York, 28 Dec. 1943**
- 14. UNDERCOVER GIRL BLUE** (L. Young) 02:45
Same as 4 **New York, 16 Jan. 1951**
- 15. LESTER SWINGS** (L. Young) 02:32
Same as 4 **New York, 8 March 1951**
- 16. SEPTEMBER IN THE RAIN** (H. Warren - A. Dubin) 03:09
Same as 4 **New York, 16 Jan. 1951**

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