

*Jersey Jazz*, the magazine of the New Jersey Jazz Society

***Jazz at the Philharmonic Seattle 1956*** (Acrobat Music – 3074) is a previously unreleased recording of a complete JATP concert that features Ella Fitzgerald, Oscar Peterson, Stan Getz, the Modern Jazz Quartet, Sonny Stitt, Dizzy Gillespie, Herb Ellis, Ray Brown, Roy Eldridge, Flip Phillips, Illinois Jacquet, Jo Jones and the Gene Krupa Quartet with Dave McKenna on piano. That is quite a lineup, and provides a lot of exciting music. There were many critics who dismissed the JATP concerts as more showmanship than musical substance, but with players like these, it is virtually impossible not to have many memorable moments of musical magic. The program is divided into six sections. The opening group consists of Eldridge, Phillips, Jacquet, Peterson, Ellis and Brown, with two blues jams surrounding ballad features for each horn player. Next up are four tunes by the MJQ, followed by a segment where Stitt, Getz and Gillespie join the MJQ for a pair of Gillespie tunes, "Groovin' High" and Shaw 'Nuff" sandwiching ballad features for each of the three cats out front. The second set is led off by the Krupa group with McKenna on piano, Eddie Shu on sax and John Drew on bass. The magnificent Oscar Peterson Trio with Ellis and Brown get the next segment of three tunes before Ella Fitzgerald joins them for some of her inimitable artistry. Things come to a rousing conclusion with a closing jam that brings all hands on deck. With a cast of all stars like this, it is simply sit back and dig time. ([www.acrobatmusic.net](http://www.acrobatmusic.net))

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