Sonny Rollins - Saxophone Colossus **5**/4

O's Notes: This is an excellent snapshot of Sonny Rollins during 1955-56. Saxophone Colossus is among his best recordings including his "Saint Thomas", "Strode Rode" and "Blue" with two covers notably "You Don't Know What Love Is". Sonny's playing at this time is crisp, daring and fluid. If that isn't enough, the bonus is the entire Work Time album; five additional tracks recorded about six months earlier with the same fervor! "It's All Right With Me" is the highlight of this set. Max Roach works both sessions on drums with Ray Bryant (p) and George Morrow (b) on the first session. Tommy Flanagan (p) and Doug Watkins (b) play on 'Colossus. Indeed this is an essential jazz classic set.

--

D. Oscar Groomes O's Place Jazz Magazine http://www.OsPlaceJazz.com