### HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE



#### THE COMPLETE REMASTERED RECORDINGS ON BLACK SAINT & SOUL NOTE

The catalogues of Italian labels Black Saint and Soul Note comprise over 500 albums made between 1975-2008. Some of the most important figures in jazz waxed multiple sessions for one or both, reissued in these handsome boxed sets. The latest releases in the collection feature Andrew Hill, Archie Shepp, Max Roach and Roscoe Mitchell.

store.harmoniamundi.com — \$30



#### **JAZZ CUFFLINKS**

Go out in style with this handsome set of cufflinks, honoring two of the greats: Duke Ellington and Billie Holiday. Made from a high-quality zinc alloy and presented in a commemorative storage box.

retroco.com, £16.99



Don't let a single melody or lyric slip your mind as you jot them down in one of these classy and classic Moleskine notebooks, released as part of Blue Note Records' 75th Anniversary and honoring seminal albums like Kenny Burrell's *Midnight Blue*, Art Blakey's *Night in Tunisia*, Freddie Hubbard's *Hub-Tones* and Thelonious Monk's *Genius of Modern Music*.

# MOLESKINE LIMITED EDITION NOTEBOOK COLLECTION

moleskine.com/us/news/blue-note-dexter-gordon — \$18.95—24



### THE SOUND OF THE NORTH— NORWAY AND THE EUROPEAN JAZZ SCENE

Just around the corner from the home of Santa Claus, Norway has been a leading light in the international jazz scene since composer George Russell came there in 1968 to work with local players. This comprehensive guide by Luca Vitali, newly available in an English translation, covers the country's various cities, scenes, traditions and players, from the circle around Jan Garbarek documented on early ECM albums to younger players like Trygve Seim, Paal Nilssen-Love and Håkan Kornstad. Skål!

thesoundofthenorth.net – £18



### DEJUNO JAZZ LUGGAGE

Don't leave your love for jazz at home...bring it with you on business trips and vacations with this three-piece hardside luggage set featuring a trademarked jazz design, 360-degree spinners, fully-lined interior and top and side handles for carrying convenience.

dejuno.com/shop/jazz— \$459.97

### SUN RA-A JOYFUL NOISE

Available once more on DVD and Blu-Ray, this 1980 documentary by Robert Mugge, restored fron the original 16mm print, was the culmination of two years on the road and at home with the legendary bandleader and his Arkestra. It includes plenty of performance footage and interviews with bandmembers of the period.

mvdshop.com/products/sun-rasun-ra-a-joyful-noise-dvd — \$19.95



# **ADOLPHE SAX T-SHIRT**

Celebrate the legacy of everyone's favorite Belgian inventor with this striking shirt available in various styles and colors.

cafepress.com/mf/98978909/adolphe-sax\_ tshirt?productId= 1584915911 - \$16.95-29.99



#### MUSIC TO SILENCE TO MUSIC: A BIOGRAPHY OF HENRY GRIMES

The bassist's life should be the subject of a Hollywood feature. Henry Grimes played on hundreds of sessions in the late '50s-60s, albums by everyone from Sonny Rollins and Gerry Mulligan to Albert Ayler and Sunny Murray. After 1966, he disappeared into the jazz ether, only to be discovered in 2002 working as a janitor and subsequently brought back to music, where he has been nearly as prolific as in his youth. This biography by Barbara Ina Frenz explores Grimes' fascinating story and includes a forward by the bassist's former employer Sonny Rollins.

inpressbooks.co.uk — £20



Love him or hate him, there is no way to ignore the impact of the late bassist Jaco Pastorious on modern jazz.



A member of Weather Report during the fusion band's glory days and participant on albums by everyone from Al DiMeola and Albert Mangelsdorff to Joni Mitchell, Pastorius led a trafically short life that often overshadowed his music. Metallica bassist Robert Trujillo has put together a loving documentary, a two-DVD or Blu-Ray set featuring unseen live footage and photos and interviews. Running time 217 minutes.

mvdshop.com/products/ jaco-pastorius-jaco-dvd — \$19.95



#### TURTLE RECORDS—PIONEERING BRITISH JAZZ 1970 - 1971

This British label existed from 1970-71 and released only three LPs. But what albums they were: Mike Osborne and John Taylor's debuts as leaders and the first album by Howard Riley's trio with Barry Guy and Tony Oxley, These impossible-to-find albums have finally been reissued, complete with an informative essay on British jazz by music journalist Colin Harper and lots of archival photos.

shop.cherryred.co.uk/shopexd. asp?id=5169 - £17.99





Christmas Soul Barbara Dennerlein (MPS) Creole Christmas Etienne Charles (Culture Shock Music) Big Band Holidays Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra (Blue Engine) by Andrey Henkin

The true meaning of Christmas is obvious: unrepentant capitalism. It seems that even before Halloween, every store imaginable has been transforming itself into a winter wonderland to boost year-end sales. While a sad statement on the world's priorities, it is a useful analogy for discussing three fine new jazzy Christmas releases.

Hammond organ player Barbara Dennerlein's Christmas Soul has the charming lived-in variety of a vintage clothing shop. The quintet [saxophonist/flutist/clarinetist Magnus Lindgren, bassist Luca Alemanno, drummer Robert Ikiz and percussionist Abdissa Assefa, expanded to a sextet on several tracks with either guitarist Nicola Conte or vocalist Zara McFarlane) offers a relaxed 13-track program of classic fare like "Christmas Time Is Here", "We Three Kings", "Little Drummer Boy", "Old Tannenbaum" and both "Blue" and "White Christmas". Dennerlein's other releases have shown a player with a catholic view of the organ's place but here she is almost self-effacing, a gentle snowfall rather than a Nor'easter. "Let It Snow" is played with a hip swing; "We Three Kings" sounds like a delicious outtake from a '60s Charles Lloyd album; "Little Drummer Boy" is recast with a reggae groove; "Sleigh Ride" is pure '70s soul. The inclusion of "Chim Chim Cheree" from Mary Poppins is a bit peculiar for a Christmas album but is hardly a lump of coal.

Putting on trumpeter Etienne Charles' Creole Christmas is like entering an emporium selling spices of the world. In an unusual move for a Christmas album, Charles offers few cinnamon sticks or nutmeg cloves, instead playing "Go Tell It On The Mountain" (vocals by Mykal Kilgore), Donny Hathaway's soul-funk "This Christmas", two pieces from Calypso pianist Lionel Belasco and modern Trinidadian Christmas tunes "Make A Friend for Christmas" and "Christmas is Yours, Christmas is Mine", both featuring composer/vocalist Relator, and "Indian Parang Chick". Tchaikovsky makes two appearances: "Spanish Dance" from Swan Lake and "Dance" of the Sugar Plum Fairy" from The Nutcracker, the former Flamenco-ized, the latter transplanted from 19th Century Saint Petersburg to modern-day New York City. The album was recorded with various personnel over three days in July 2014, which explains the steamy vibe throughout, as warming as zesty hot cider.

Big Band Holidays by the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra (JLCO) is Macy's, or maybe even Gimbel's. All the glitzy ornaments are here: "Jingle Bells", "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas", "We Three Kings" and "I'll Be Home for Christmas", along with some presents that required a bit more thought like "'Zat You, Santa Claus?", "Merry Christmas Baby" and season-appropriate standard "It's Easy to Blame the Weather", with featured soloists like Walter Blanding, Ted Nash and Sherman Irby (saxophones) and leader Wynton Marsalis (trumpet). Like moving from one department to another, a variety of feels is on display, courtesy of arrangements by band members like Victor Goines, Chris Crenshaw and Irby as well as the inclusion of some helper elves in vocalists Cécile McLorin Salvant, René Marie and Gregory Porter on several tracks. This music is guaranteed for good cheer, whether you are vomiting from too much eggnog, sick of spending time with family or waiting in an endless line to pay for your presents.

For more information, visit mps-music.com, etiennecharles.com and jazz.org/blueengine. Charles' Creole Christmas is at Dizzy's Club Dec. 2nd. JLCO's Big Band Holidays is at Rose Hall Dec. 17th-19th. See Calendar.