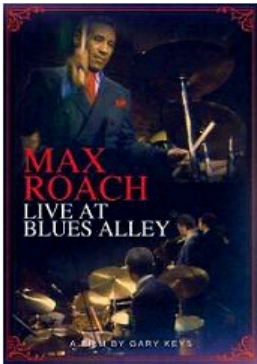




The Hard Bop Homepage

What's New?



[Max Roach Live at Blues Alley](#) (1981)

Max Roach -- MVDvisual

This is a rather short set from 1981, recorded at Blues Alley in Washington D.C. [Max Roach](#) is featured with the piano-less quartet that he toured with for most of the 80s, featuring Cecil Bridgewater on trumpet, Odeon Pope on tenor sax, and bassist Calvin Hill. The set opens and closes with solos by Roach, beginning with a tribute to Sid Catlett called "Big Sid" and ending with his signature "Mr. Hi Hat," a tribute to the great Jo Jones. In between are three fairly lengthy post-bop numbers. Roach is a great host, however, joking with his band members and telling anecdotes about his time on 52nd Street with Charlie Parker. The sound is fairly good and any problems are a minor quibble when you realize there is very little video at all in existence featuring the great drummer. Overall, a terrific, intimate set.