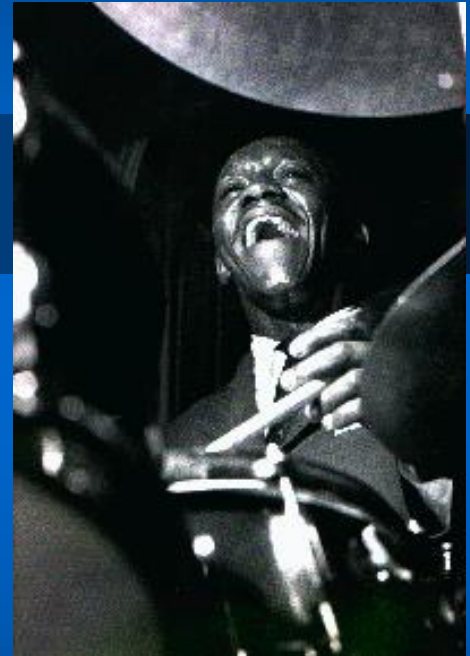


Survey of American Jazz

Week 2, Day 1



Basic Elements of Music

Beat: tapping your foot

Tempo: speed of beat (i.e. fast/up beat, slow, moderate, etc.)

Meter: groupings of beats, usually in 4' s and 3' s

Duple, triple, irregular

Measure: one grouping of a specific meter (also termed bar)

Rhythm: how the beat is broken down in a measure

Syncopation: an unexpected rhythmic accent

Note Values:

Quarter Notes: one note/beat

Eighth Notes: two notes/beat

Sixteenth Notes: four notes/beat

Triplets: three notes/beat

Legato: long/connected notes (articulation)

Staccato: short/detached notes (articulation)

And more...

Swing Eighth-note Pattern: long-short-long-short (uneven)

Polyrhythm: several rhythms played simultaneously

Scale: group of notes with specific sequence (major, minor, pentatonic, blues scales...)

Octave: same note played higher or lower by doubling or halving the hertz (i.e. 110 Hz., 220, 440, 880... All are “A”s)

Key: the home base of a scale (“Doe, a deer...”, really “Do”)

Tonal: music that relates to a key/scale

Atonal: music that doesn’t relate to a key/scale (20thc+)

Mode: a type of scale

Chords: three or more notes sounded together

Chord Progression: the movement of chords through time

Chord Voicing: how the notes of a chord are arranged in various octaves

And More...

Harmony

interval: distant between 2 notes

consonant vs. dissonant

harmonic progression: harmony through time

Dynamics: volume of sound (quiet, loud, etc)

Melody: single notes (pitches)

Phrase: sentence

Riff: repeated section of a sentence

And More...

Note Names: A,B,C,D,E,F,G. Then they repeat A,B...

Flat: lowered (pitch) note

Sharp: raised note (higher)

Form: grouping of measures into larger units.

Each unit is given a letter name, usually starting with A. If a unit is similar enough to another, it might be called A'. Each unit (letter) is usually the same length of measures. If the first A section=8 measures, AABA=? measures

Forms

A= Flintstones. Meet the Flintstones.

They're the modern stone age family.

A= From the town of Bedrock,

They're a page right out of history.

B= Let's ride with the family down the street.

Through the courtesy of Fred's two feet.

A= When you're with the Flintstones

you'll have a yabba dabba doo time.

A dabba doo time.

You'll have a gay old time.



Other Forms

AABB

Blues = AAB

ABACABA

B=Bridge in AABA. Bridges the music back to A.

Chorus: one time through the form (i.e. 3 choruses = ??
times through the form. If A=8 measures, and the
form is AABA, how many measures in 3 choruses?)

Basic Instruments

Brass: trumpet (flugelhorn, cornet), trombone

Woodwind: saxophone (soprano, alto, tenor, baritone), clarinet, flute

Rhythm section: drums (trap-set, set), bass (tuba), guitar, piano (synthesizer)

Listen to demo recordings at [wwnorton...](http://wwnorton.com)

Improvisation

Improvisation (solo): music that is created (composed) spontaneously, although it is practiced in advance

Detecting improv:

sounds more casual, less organized

Form... Melody (head), solos, melody

Visual clues (standing up in a band, etc.)



The End