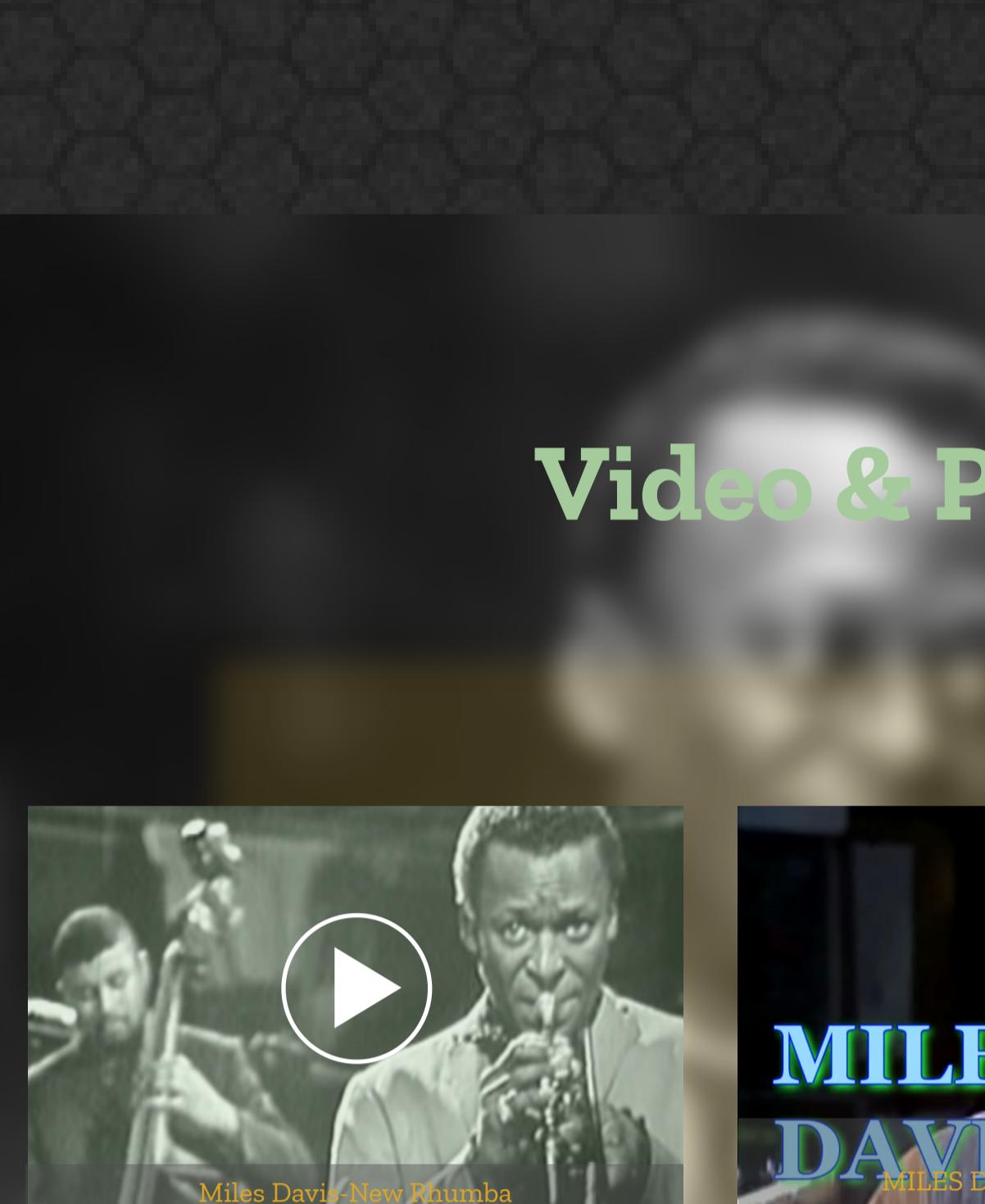


"SOMETIMES YOU HAVE TO PLAY A LONG TIME TO BE ABLE TO PLAY LIKE YOURSELF."

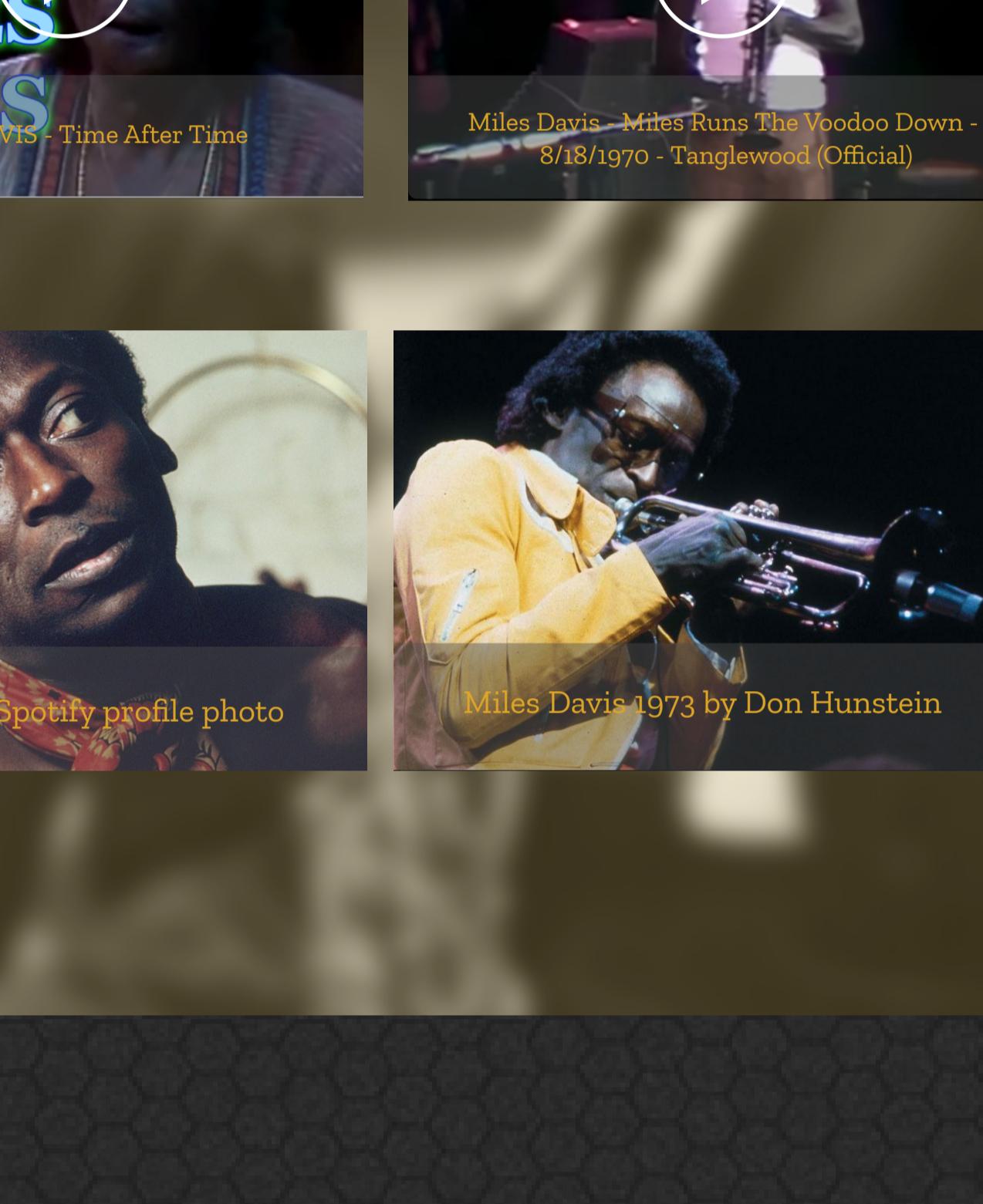
His Life



Miles Davis as photographed by Tom Palumbo ca. 1955-1956

With his success as a jazz musician quickly growing, Miles dropped out of Juilliard in 1945 with his father's permission and started performing full-time with his newly developed signature style. In 1946, Miles Davis made his first recording with the group of his creation, the Miles Davis Sextet. In late 1948, Davis formed a nine-piece band with musicians Gerry Mulligan, J.J. Johnson, Kenny Clarke, Lee Konitz, and players on the French horn and tuba. A series of the band's singles were later released in an album, *The Birth of Cool*.

Miles Dewey Davis III was born May 26, 1926 in Alton, Illinois. After being introduced to the trumpet at 13, Miles Davis studied under Elwood Buchanan, a friend of his father that directed a music school. During this period, Davis was taught to play without vibrato and began to experiment with harmonies and rhythms of his improvisation. He later left Illinois to attend Juilliard, a famed music school in New York City, in 1944. While in New York, Davis joined Charlie Parker and his band to play at Harlem Nightclubs. Here, Davis met with many other musicians and together they developed "bebop," a quick-paced, improvised style of jazz.

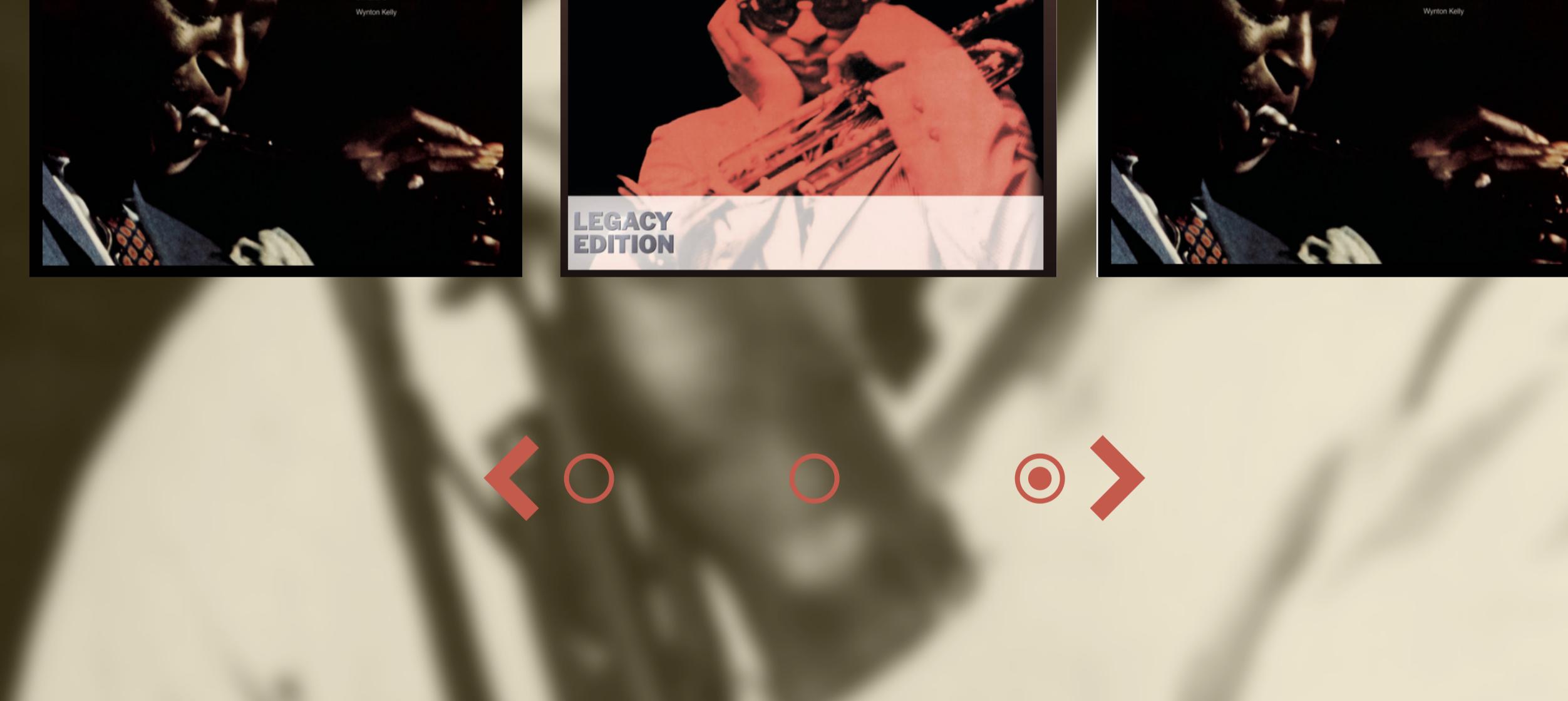


Miles pictured with his second wife, Betty Davis ca. 1968-1969.

In the 1950s up until 1954, Davis struggled with a heroin addiction. When he recovered, he became an innovator within the jazz industry. 1975, Davis was once again drawn into drug abuse, becoming addicted to alcohol and cocaine, and subsequently taking a five-year hiatus from his career. 1979, he met Cicely Tyson, an American actress, who helped him overcome his cocaine addiction. He and Tyson married in 1981. 1991, he played with Quincy Jones at the Montreux Jazz Festival. September 28, 1991, Davis succumbed to pneumonia and respiratory failure, dying at the age of 65.

(Timeline)

Video & Photo Gallery



Career History

Throughout his career, Davis released many albums including 'Round About Midnight' (1956), Workin' (1956), Steamin' (1956), Relaxin' (1956), and Milestones (1958) Kind of Blue (1959), perhaps the most celebrated album in the history of jazz. In a Silent Way (1969) was regarded as the seminal album of the jazz fusion movement. It was considered by purists to be Davis's last true jazz album. Bitches Brew (1969), was an album on which he fully embraced the rhythms, electronic instrumentation, and studio effects of rock music. 1979 to 1981 recordings that culminated in the release of The Man with the Horn. He interpreted songs made popular by Michael Jackson ("Human Nature") and Cyndi Lauper ("Time After Time") on his album You're Under Arrest, released in 1985.



Miles Davis performing on stage.

Miles marked a return to his blues roots (*Star People*, 1982) and a set of Gil Evans-influenced orchestral numbers (*Music from Siesta*, 1987). Davis won several Grammy Awards during this period for such albums as *We Want Miles* (1982), *Tutu* (1986), and *Aura* (1989). His final album, *Doo-Bop* (1992), was released posthumously. Winner of eight Grammy awards and in 1990, received a Lifetime Achievement Grammy Award. In 1994, around the same time that his performance of "Round Midnight" at the Newport Jazz Festival, Miles earned a recording contract with Columbia Records. His music was so influential that he was featured on the cover of Rolling Stone magazine—becoming the first jazz artist to be so recognized.

Miles Davis Quintet: Freedom Jazz Series: The Bootleg Series, Vol. 5

Discography



STEREOPHONY FIDELITY

'ROUND ABOUT MIDNIGHT Miles Davis

STEREOPHONY FIDELITY

STELLA BY STARLIGHT Miles Davis

LEGACY EDITION

CHAKIN RECORDS

RECORDED BY

JOHN COLTRANE

PAUL CHAMBERS

JOHN COLEMAN

ELI GOREE

PHILIP WOODS

RECORDED IN NEW YORK CITY

ON APRIL 15, 1956

AT THE MONTREUX HOTEL

IN SWITZERLAND

BY RAY CHARLES

AND THE COLUMBIA

RECORDING STUDIO

IN NEW YORK CITY

ON APRIL 16, 1956

RECORDED IN NEW YORK CITY

ON APRIL 17, 1956

RECORDED IN NEW YORK CITY

ON APRIL 18, 1956

AT THE MONTREUX HOTEL

IN SWITZERLAND

BY RAY CHARLES

AND THE COLUMBIA

RECORDING STUDIO

IN NEW YORK CITY

ON APRIL 19, 1956

RECORDED IN NEW YORK CITY

ON APRIL 20, 1956

RECORDED IN NEW YORK CITY

RECORDED IN NEW YORK CITY

ON APRIL 21, 1956

AT THE MONTREUX HOTEL

IN SWITZERLAND

BY RAY CHARLES

AND THE COLUMBIA

RECORDING STUDIO

IN NEW YORK CITY

ON APRIL 22, 1956

RECORDED IN NEW YORK CITY

ON APRIL 23, 1956

RECORDED IN NEW YORK CITY

ON APRIL 24, 1956

RECORDED IN NEW YORK CITY

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