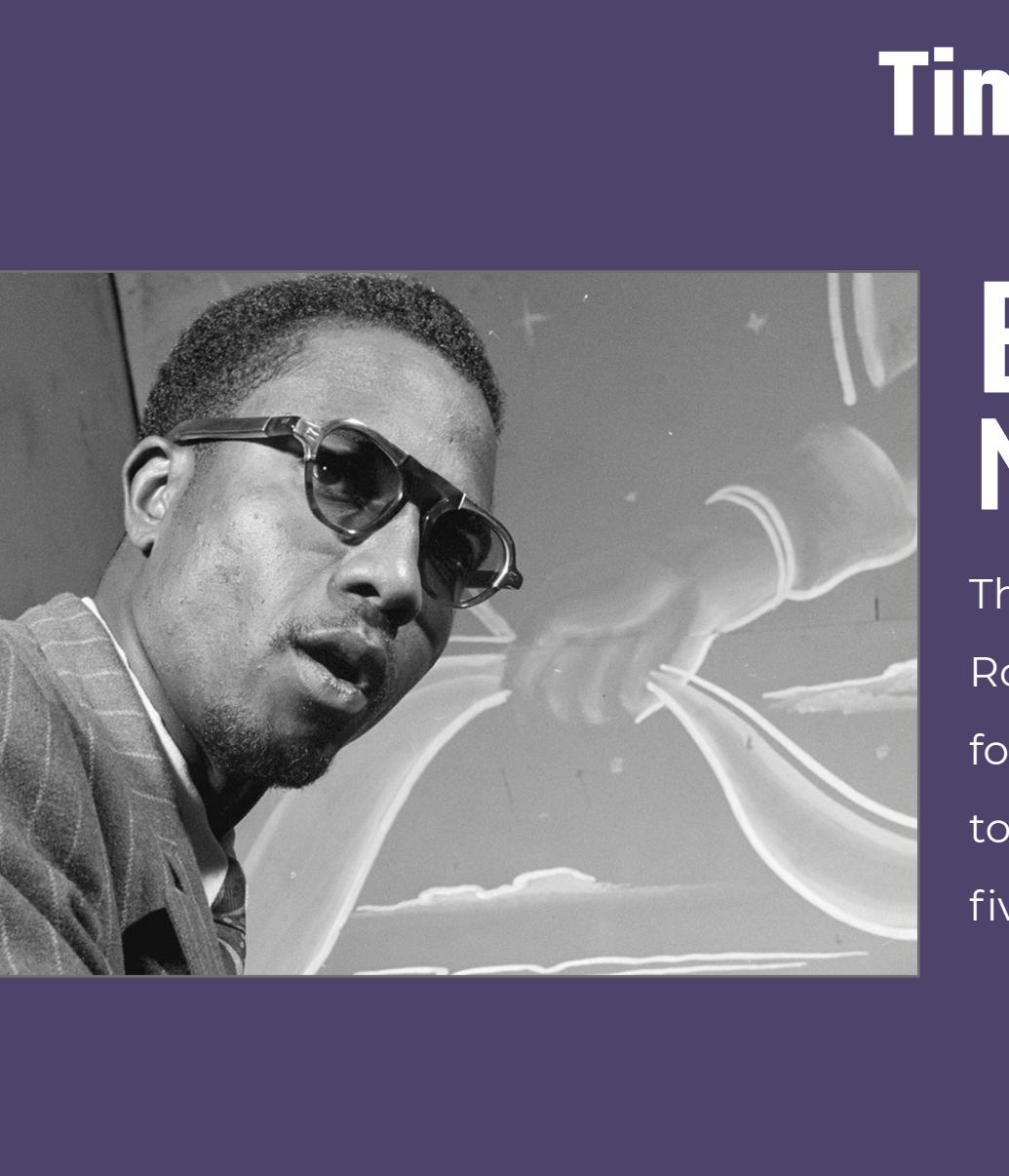


Learn about Thelonious Monk

Biography



About Monk

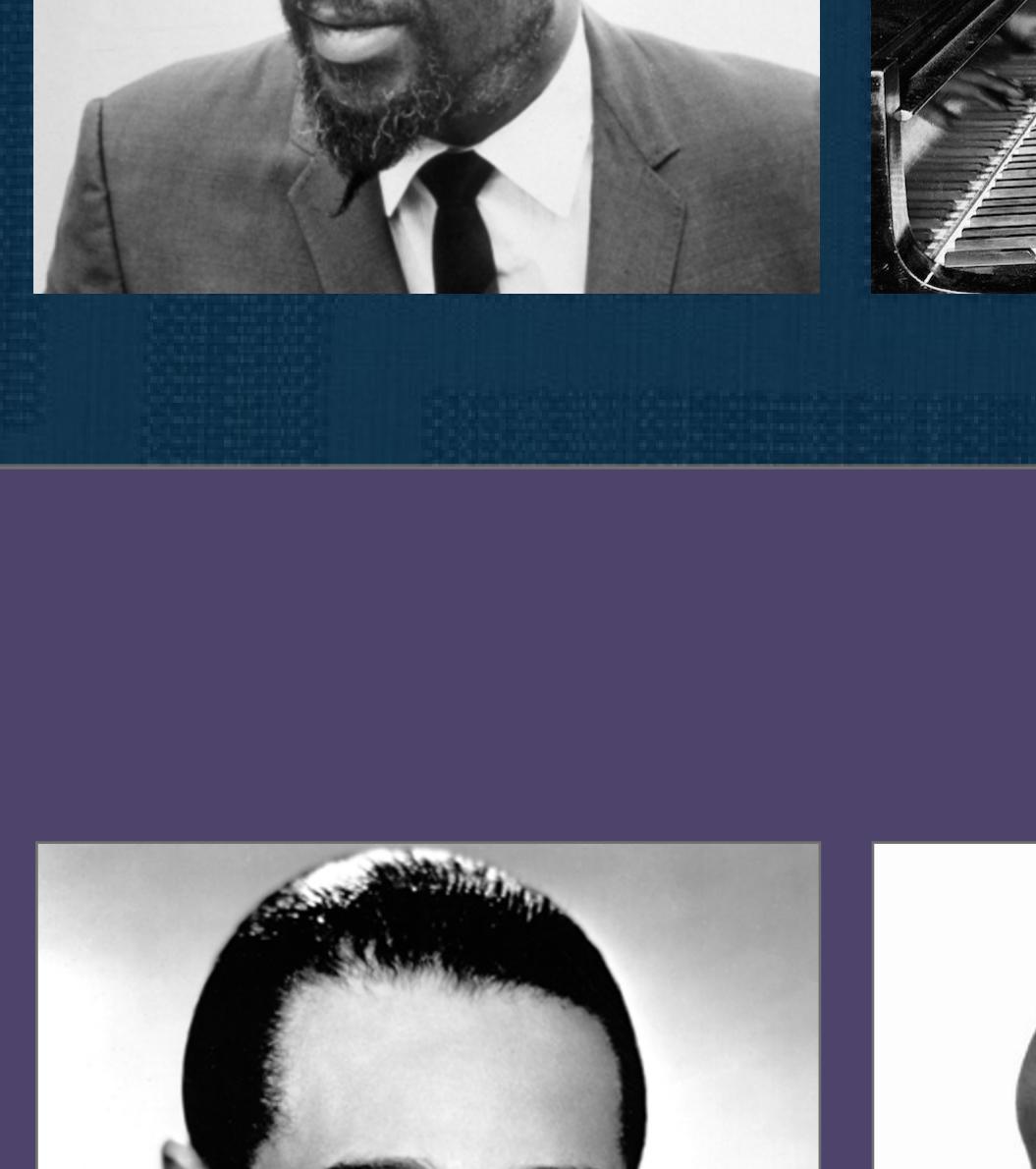
Thelonious Monk grew up in New York, started playing piano when he was around five, and had his first job touring as an accompanist to an evangelist. He was inspired by the Harlem stride pianists (James P. Johnson was a neighbor) and vestiges of that idiom can be heard in his later unaccompanied solos. However, when he was playing in the house band of Minton's Playhouse during 1940-1943, Monk was searching for his own individual style.

Monks Brand

Thelonious Monk had a lot of space in his rhythmic solos and had an unusual technique, many people thought that he was an inferior pianist. His compositions were so advanced that the lazier bebop players (although not Dizzy Gillespie and Charlie Parker) assumed that he was crazy. And Thelonious Monk's name, appearance (he liked funny hats), and personality (an occasionally uncommunicative introvert) helped to brand him as some kind of nut.



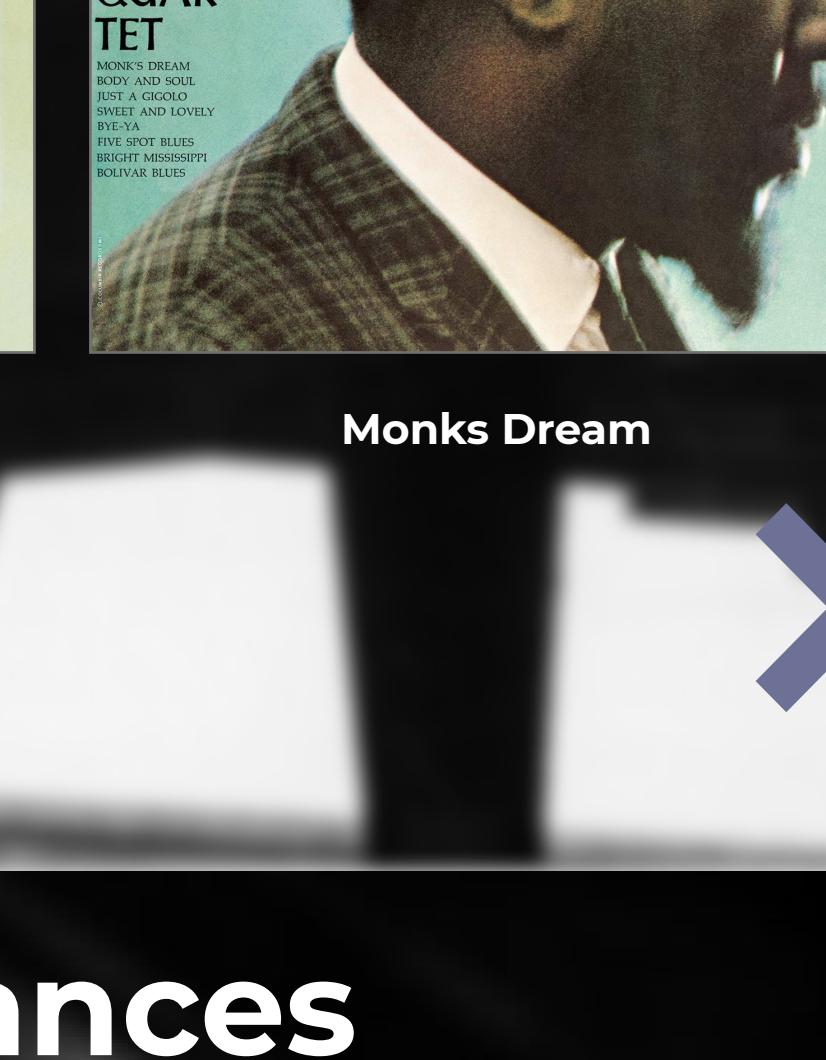
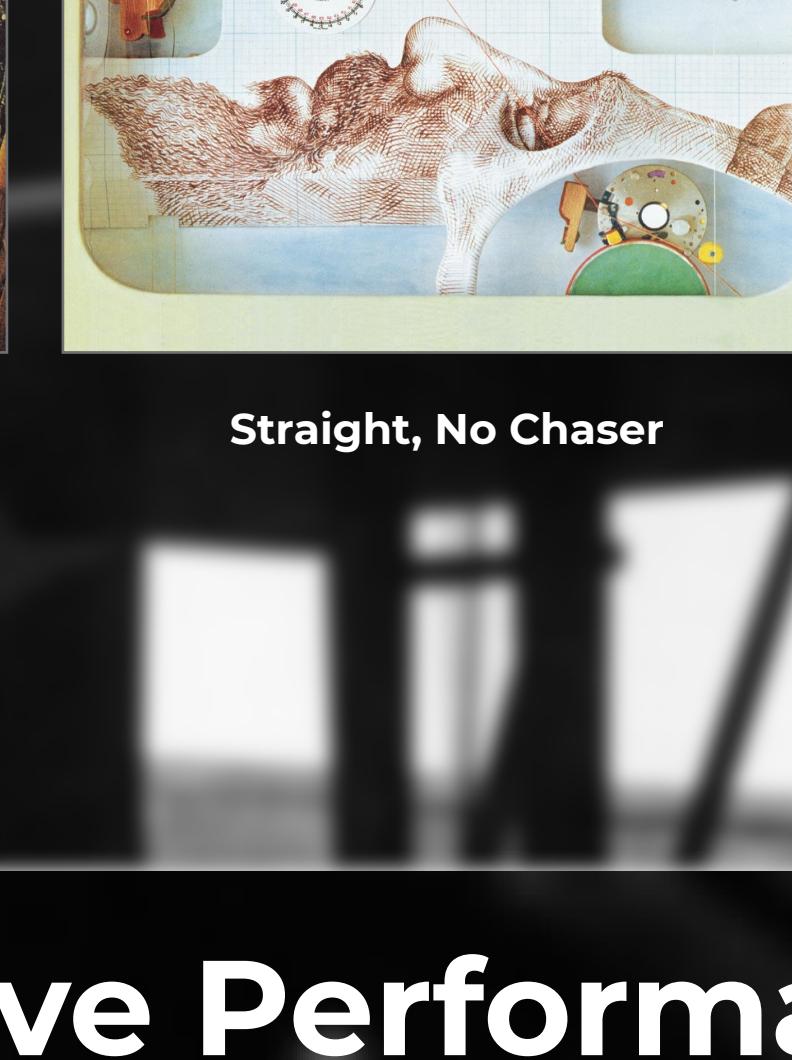
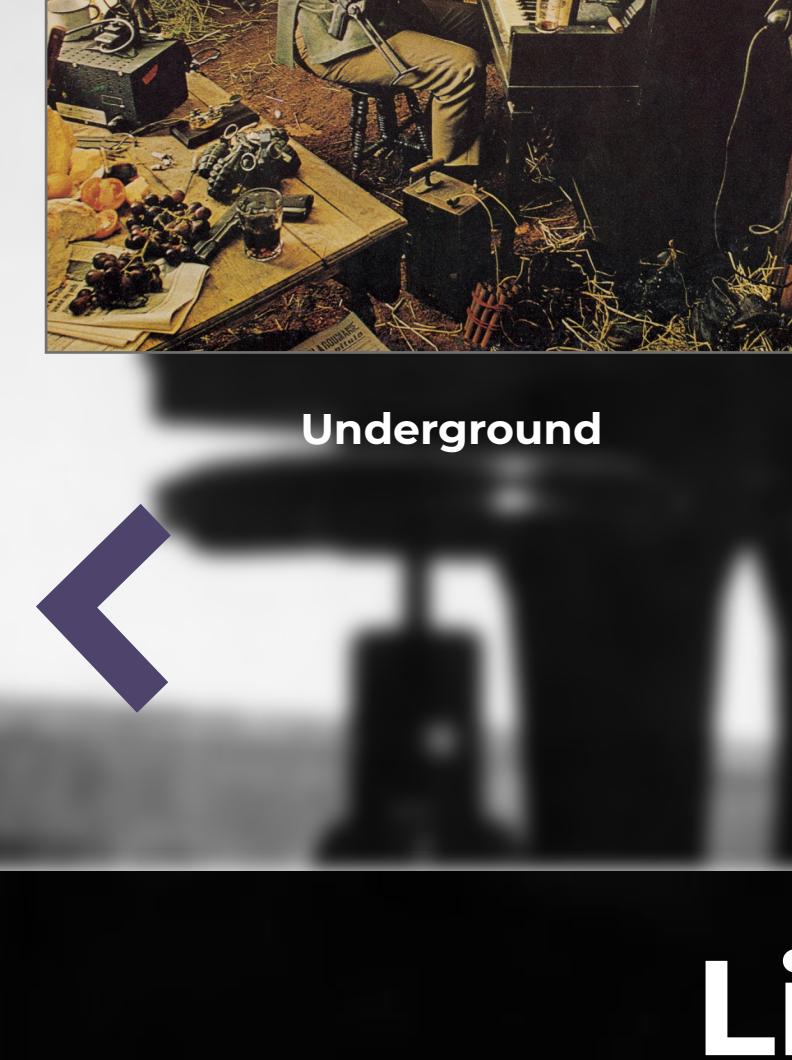
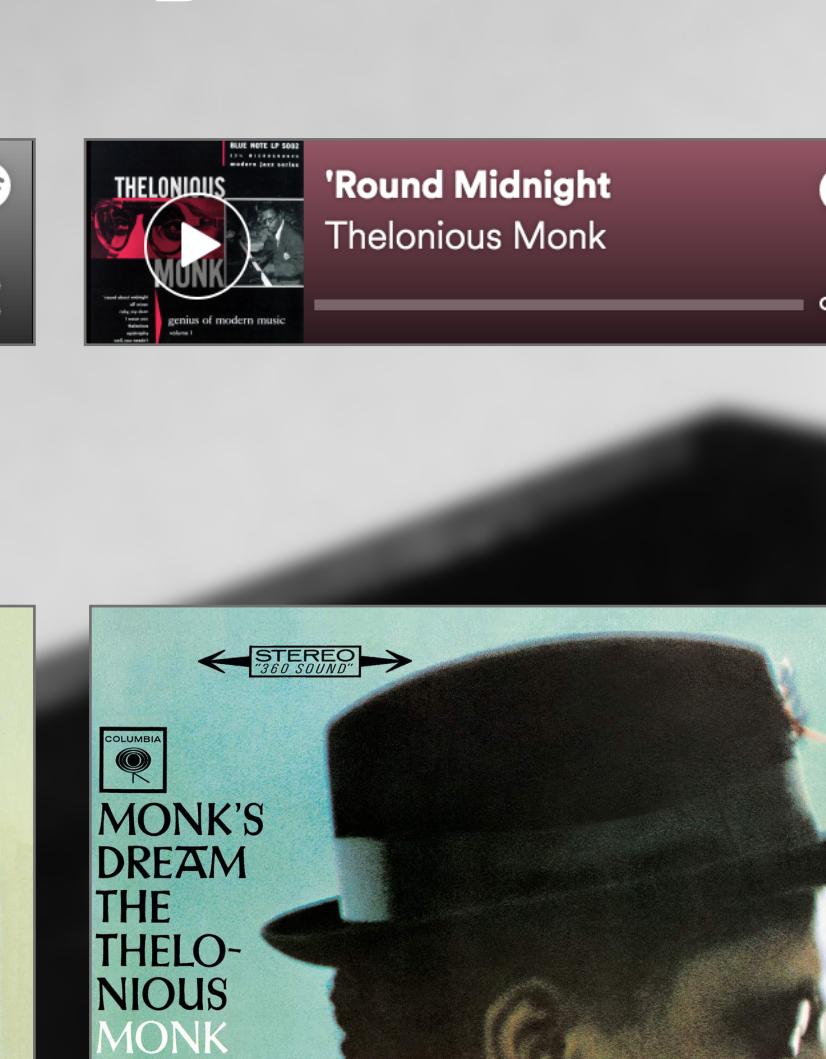
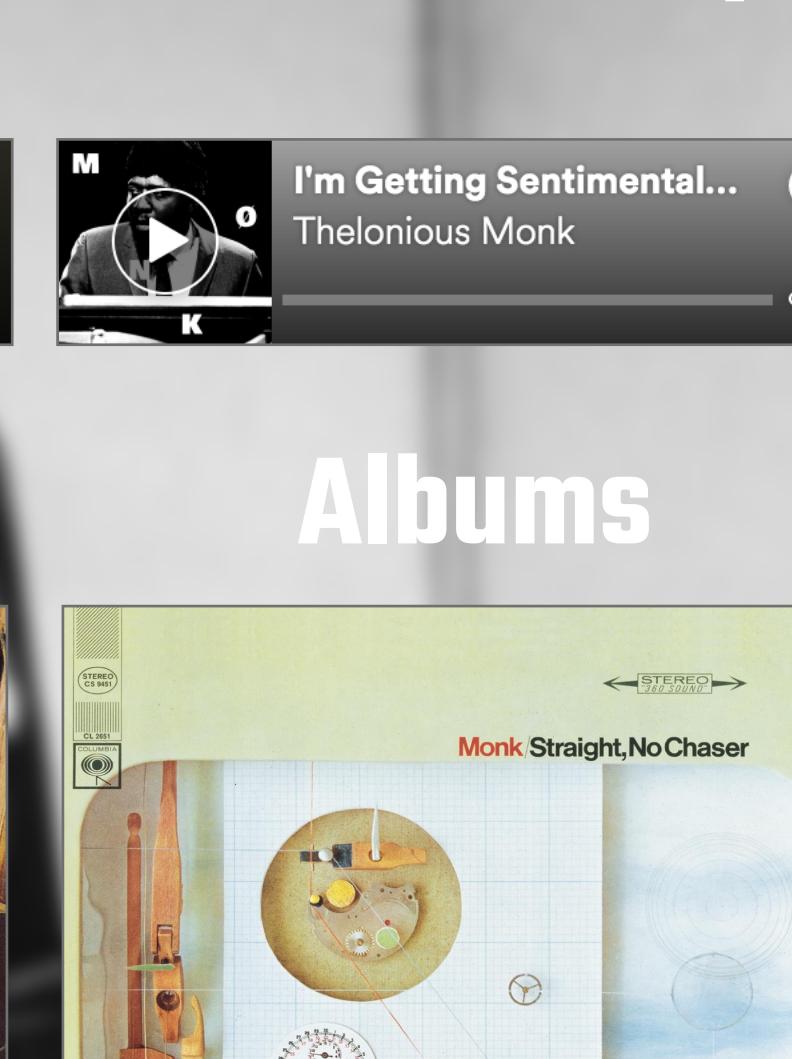
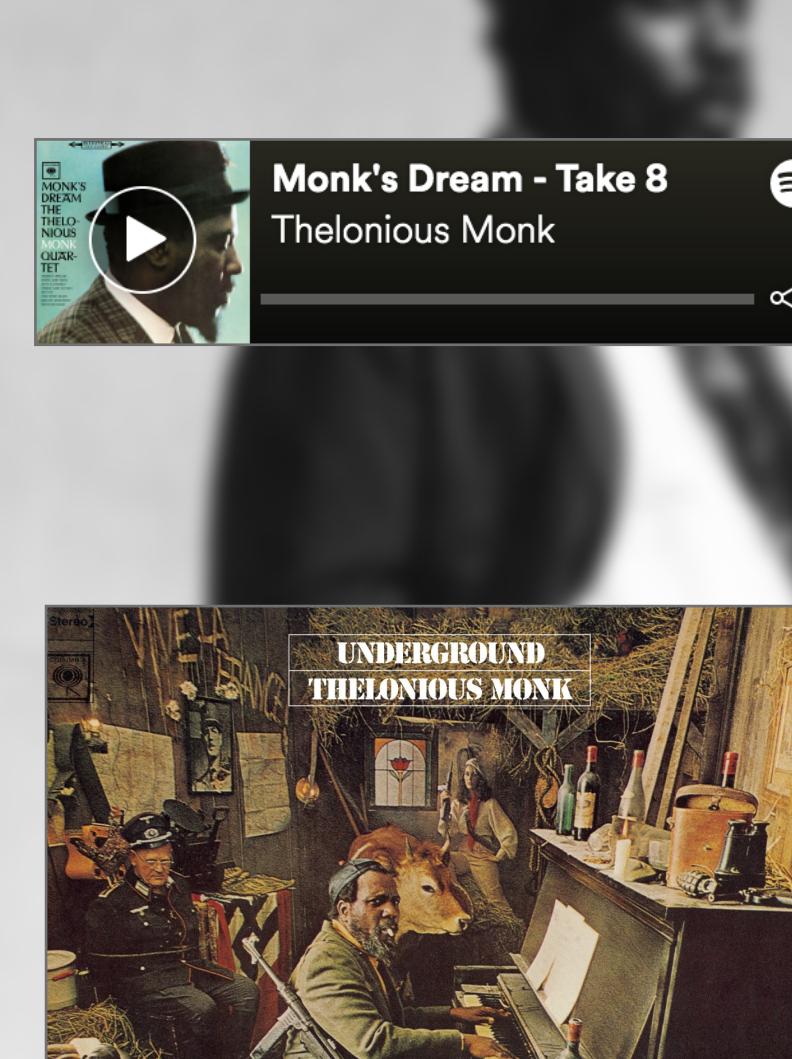
TimeLine



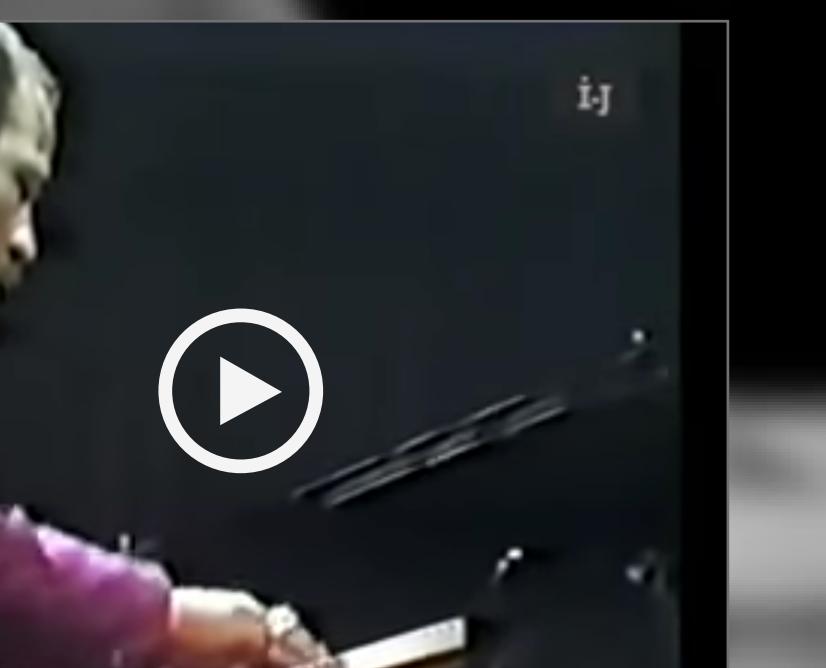
Birth of Monk

Thelonious Monk was born on October 10, 1917 in Rocky Mount, North Carolina. When he was just four, his parents, Barbara and Thelonious, Sr., moved to New York City where he would spend the next five decades of his life.

Gallery



Influences



Duke Ellington

Duke Ellington was an American composer, pianist, and leader of a jazz orchestra.

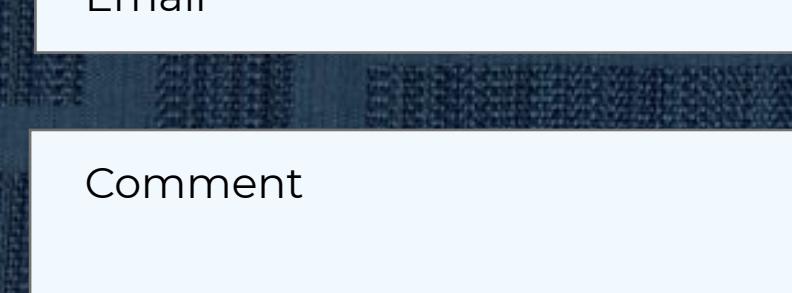
James Price Johnson

James Price Johnson was an American pianist and composer. A pioneer of the stride style of jazz.

Art Tatum

Art Tatum, an African American pianist, and one of the greatest jazz pianists of all time, was born on this date in 1909, in Toledo, OH.

Albums and top songs



Albums



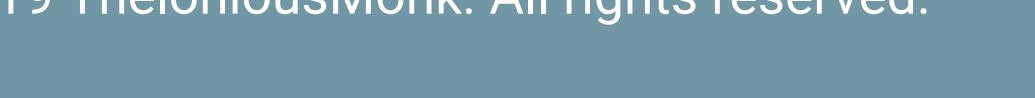
Underground

Straight, No Chaser

Monk's Dream

Thelonious Monk Quartet Live In 66 Norway & Denmark concerts

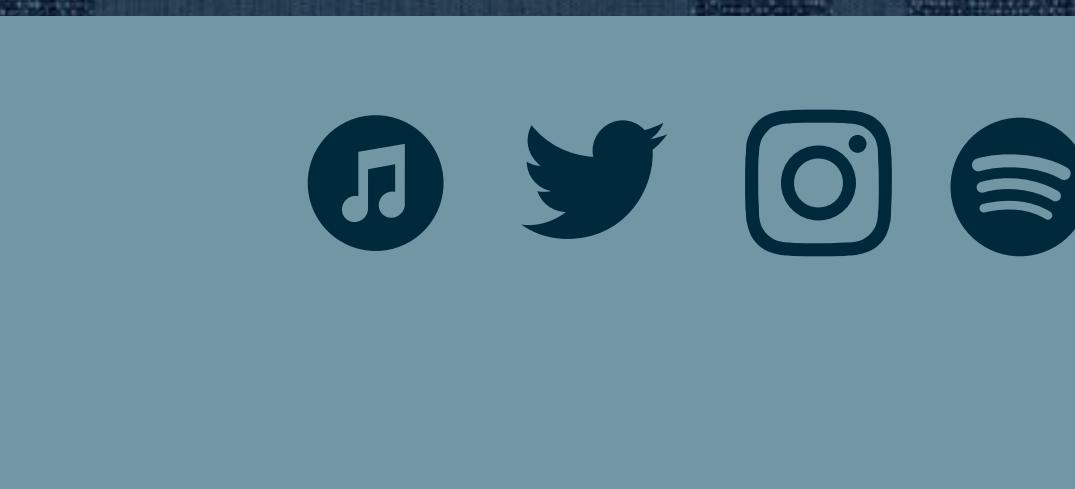
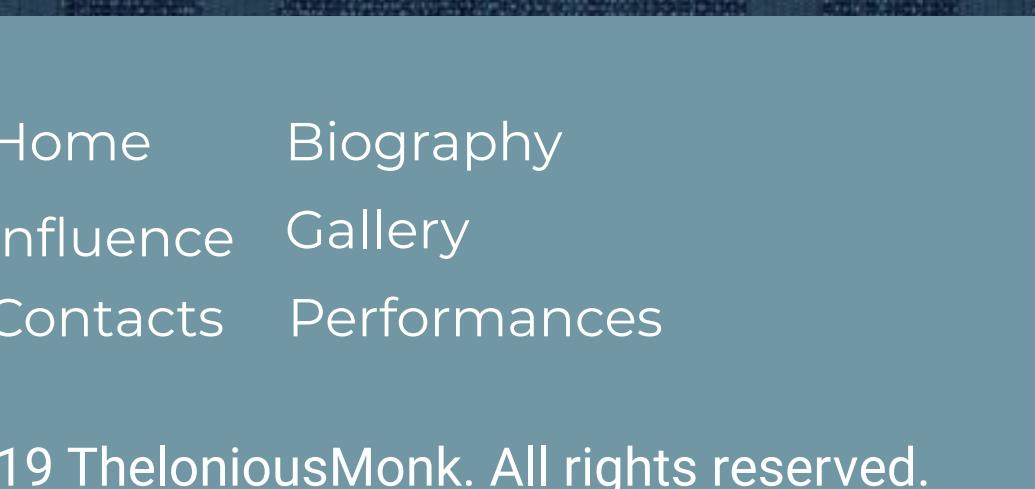
Thelonious Monk Quartet in Poland April 1966



Thelonious Monk - Live At Berliner Jazztage (1969)

Thelonious Monk, Dizzy Gillespie, Giants Of Jazz Copenhagen 1971

Live Performances



Thelonious Monk - Live At Berliner Jazztage (1969)

Thelonious Monk, Dizzy Gillespie, Giants Of Jazz Copenhagen 1971

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Lastname

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