



Jazz, Swing, and Bebop: American Music!

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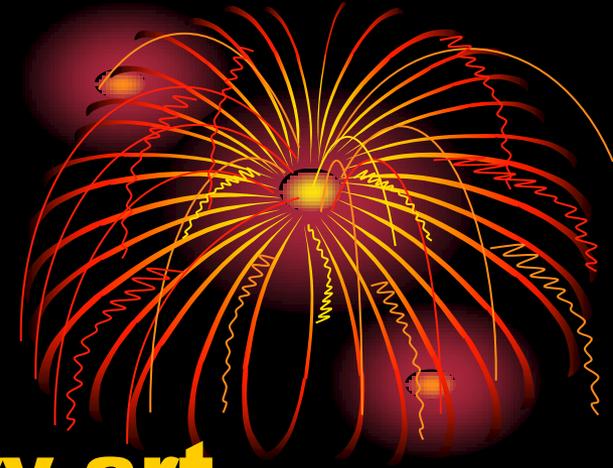
**Please Silence or Mute Cell
Phones**

Origins



- **F. Scott Fitzgerald: labeled 1920s and 1930s “the Jazz Age”**
- **Secular and religious**
- **African American**
- **European Classical**
- **American Folk**
- **Radio and Recording Industry arise at same time**

Improvisation

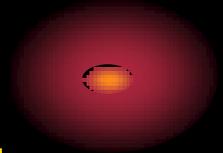


- **Jazz is an improvisatory art**
- **Follows a musical structure based on repeated series of chords**
- **Variation of primary melody**
- **Each performance is a new work**
- **Transform and recreate traditional materials**

Chronology of Styles



- **New Orleans Style 1910s and 1920s**
 - **Louis Armstrong**
- **Chicago Style 1920s and 1930s**
 - **Guitar replaces banjo; Base string replaces Tuba**
 - **Faster Rhythm**
- **Swing 1930s and 1940s**
 - **Faster; Bennie Goodman or Count Basie**
 - **Strong Rhythm**
- **Bebop 1940s and 1950s**
 - **Charlie Parker, Dizzy Gillespie**
 - **More complex syncopation**



Hot Jazz or Dixieland



- **Originated in New Orleans**
- **Combines brass band sounds with French quadrilles and Ragtime Blues**
- **Best Example: “When the Saints Come Marching In”**
- **Trumpet establishes the melody; other instruments improvise around it**

Louis Armstrong (1901-1971)



- **Performance Art: “Satchmo” was one of the best showman; Singer and Trumpet**
- **Joe “King” Oliver Creole Jazz Band in Chicago, 1922**
- **“Heebie Jeebies” and Hot Five:**
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kSmGt2U-xTE>
- **Scat Singing**

Billie Holiday (1915-59)



- **Nickname: “Lady Day”**
- **Manipulates phrasing and tempo of vocals like a jazz instrument**
- **Blues as a variation on Jazz**
- **“Fine and Mellow”:**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZtgUbJN8oPE>

Swing and the 30s



- **Economic Crisis—desire for more optimistic and dreamy music**
- **Big Bands**
- **Smooth, Swinging Music**
- **Dance**
- **Duke Ellington was a leader of this new sound**

Big Bands and Swing



- **Bigger bands with a larger sound**
- **Faster beat**
- **Great for dancing**
- **More White bands**
- **Louis Prima, “Sing, Sing, Sing” 1937**
- **Benny Goodman, Carnegie Hall, 1938**
- **<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HPNbCbZb32Y>**

Duke Ellington (1899-1974)



- **The Cotton Club in Harlem**
- **Models of success in Black America**
- **Triadic harmony expanded**
- **Larger range of tonal color**
- **Muted brass, slides and growls**
- **“Mood Indigo”**
- **<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x02IJ023tJ4&feature=related>**

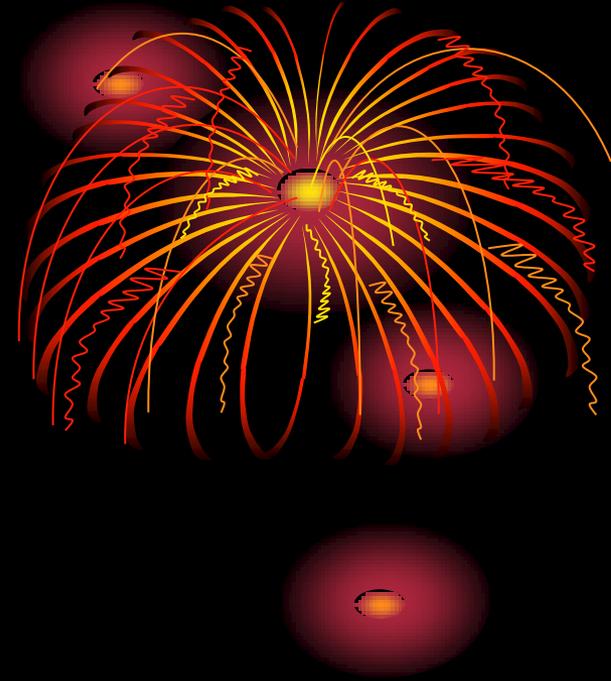
Postwar Music: Bebop

- **Jazz was listened to by troops during war**
- **After, a new music emerges partly as a result of greater freedoms for Black Americans**
- **Gives expression to frustration**



Bebop

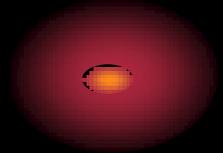
- **More improvisation**
- **Greater chordal range**
- **Less focused on dance**
- **Explores Moods**



Charlie Parker “Bird” (1920-1955)



- **Saxophonist**
- **Credited with creating Bebop**
- **“Hothouse” 1952**
- **<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rFFfoLhxgml>**
- **Music of Freedom**
- **Asymmetrical melodies**
- **Opens and closes with a flourish**



“Dizzy” Gillespie (1917-1993)



- **Trumpet**
- **Along with Parker, helped to develop bebop**
- **Scat singing**
- **“Salt Peanuts”**
- **“A Night in Tunisia”**
- **<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NSau8dhpWqw>**

Summary



- **Jazz Music is a quintessential American form of Music**
- **Artistic innovation**
- **Expression of Freedom**
- **Represents the full range of America's ethnic diversity**
- **Helped America stay optimistic through Depression and War as Swing**
- **Gave voice to post-war disillusionment as Bebop**