2019

jazz Departure from the Conventional

IP Group

Ma Rainey

Bessie Smith

blues and ragtime

The lamellophone thumb piano or mbira, a popular instrument in the African Great Lakes.

The place in jazz history of the original ***Dixieland Jazz Band***, the group of five white ***New Orleans*** musicians who set New York on its ear in 1917 when it played at Riesenweber's Cafe on Columbus Circle, is based primarily on the widely held view that it was the first jazz group to be recorded.

jazz

Departure from the Conventional

Scott Joplin

Scott Joplin achieved fame for his ragtime compositions and was dubbed the "***King of Ragtime***".

The ***blues*** has deep roots in American history, particularly African-American history. The blues originated on Southern plantations in the 19th Century. Its inventors were slaves, ex-slaves and the descendants of slaves—African-American sharecroppers who sang as they toiled in the cotton and vegetable fields. It's generally accepted that the music evolved from African spirituals, African chants, work songs, field hollers, rural fife and drum music, revivalist hymns, and country dance music.

2019

January

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IP Group

Glenn Miller

big band

Benny Goodman

jazz

Departure from the Conventional

King & Carter Jazzing Orchestra photographed in Houston, Texas, 1921.

2019

February

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The term **Big Band**, referring to Jazz, is vague but popular. The term generally refers to the swing era starting around 1935 but there was no one event that kicked off a new form of music in 1935. It had evolved naturally from the blues and jazz of New Orleans, Chicago and Kansas City.

IP Group

cotton club performers

Duke Ellington

Adelaide Hall

Cab Calloway

jazz

Departure from the Conventional

The image from the film ***The Cotton Club*** (1984), directed by Francis Ford Coppola.

2019

March

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The Cotton Club was a New York City nightclub located in Harlem on 142nd Street and Lenox Avenue from 1923 to 1935, then briefly in the midtown Theater District from 1936 to 1940. The club operated most notably during the United States' era of Prohibition. The club was a whites-only establishment, but featured many of the most popular black entertainers of the era.

IP Group

George Gershwin

Porgy and Bess (1971), album by Ella Fitzgerald and Louis Armstrong

jazz in classical music

jazz

Departure from the Conventional

Leonard Bernstein conducting "***An American in Paris***", a jazz-influenced orchestral piece by the American composer George Gershwin.

2019

April

The music of **George Gershwin** has long been a part of the American consciousness. The opening clarinet glissando from Rhapsody in Blue, the taxi horn theme from An American in Paris and the songs—"I Got Rhythm", "Embraceable You", "The Man I Love", "Someone to Watch Over Me", "Fascinating Rhythm", and so many others—are instantly recognizable.

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IP Group

Charlie Parker

bebop

jazz

Departure from the Conventional

Julio Cortázar: ***The Persuer***
(*El Perseguidor,* 1964)
in memoriam Charlie Parker.

2019

May

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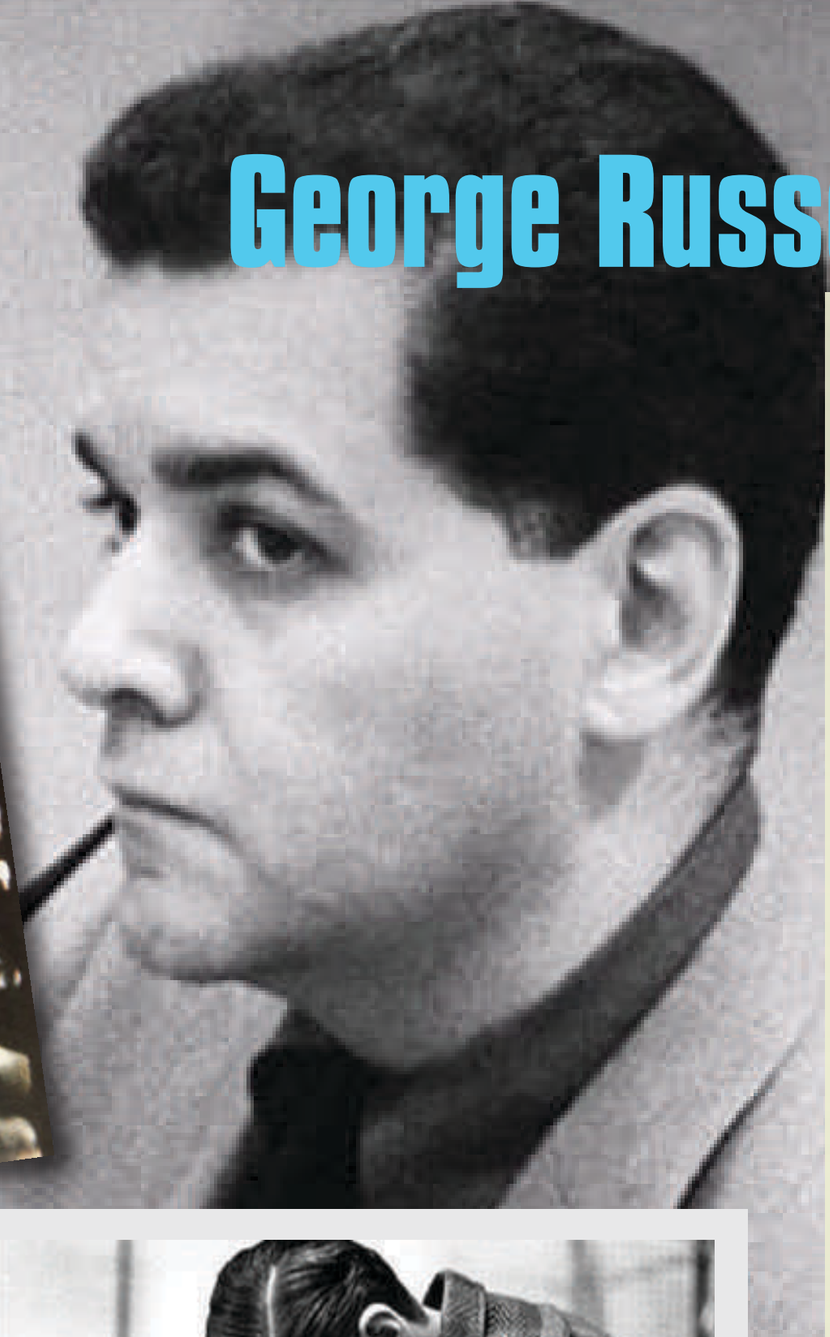
Bebop, despite its rather short lifespan, would become a key influence for every style that came after it. Bebop's effects on improvisation, group structure, and harmony would be felt throughout jazz for decades to come, and the best known musicians of the bebop era are still regarded as some of the finest jazz musicians to ever take the stage.

IP Group

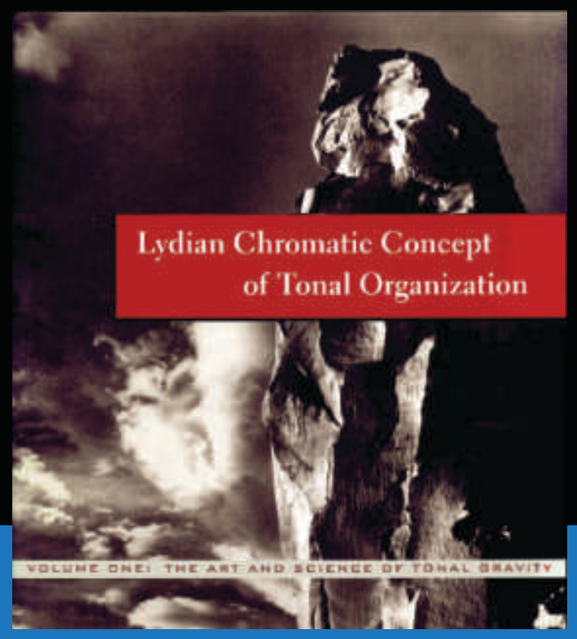
Kind of Blue (1959) is one of the most vivid examples of modal jazz

modal jazz



jazz

Departure from the Conventional



George Russell: ***Lydian Chromatic Concept of Tonal Organization*** (1953).

2019

June

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The composer **George Russell** set Davis on the path toward ***Kind of Blue***, and his ideas about tonality laid the groundwork for modal thinking. His ***Lydian Chromatic Concept of Tonal Organization*** inspired Davis to think of new ways to relate to chords and encouraged him to develop a style of music that abandoned the traditional emphasis on horizontal harmonic progression.

IP Group

cool jazz

jazz

Departure from the Conventional

Birth of the Cool (1957), album by Miles Davis. As the title suggests, these recordings are considered seminal in the history of ***cool jazz***.

2019

July

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When someone talks about “West Coast jazz” or ***cool jazz***, they’re almost invariably referring to a style performed by jazz musicians in California (and primarily in Los Angeles) in the ‘50s and early ‘60s. As opposed to the hard-bop sound dominant on the East Coast during that time, the West Coast sound was a bit mellower and more lyrical, with blended harmonies and—broadly speaking—more interest in composition and arrangement than improvisation.

IP Group

avant-garde jazz

jazz

Departure from the Conventional

Poet **Amiri Baraka**, an important figure in the Black Arts Movement, recorded spoken word tracks with the New York Art Quartet.

2019

August

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They said ***avant-garde jazz***, or “free form” or “the new music”, wouldn’t last—“they” always do. But the avant-garde jazz of the 1960s, that initially chaotic-sounding assault on traditional notions of harmony, rhythm and structure, has stayed the course, gone the distance.

IP Group

Weather Report (1971) is the debut studio album by American jazz-fusion band Weather Report

Joe Zawinul

Chick Corea

jazz fusion

jazz

Departure from the Conventional

Keith Jarrett

2019
September

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Since the early 1970s, ***fusion*** music has served as an appreciable back door for people seeking an entry into the complexities of jazz. The term "***fusion***" refers to the blending together of jazz, rock, world music, classical, or other influences into a concrete whole.

IP Group

Man-Child (1975) is one of Herbie Hancock's most funk-influenced albums

Herbie Hancock

Stanley Clarke

jazz funk

jazz

Departure from the Conventional

Jaco Pastorius

2019

October

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Somewhere between the soul-jazz of the early sixties (often called "funk" in its day) and the disco of the mid-seventies, ***funk jazz*** was born. ***Jazz-funk*** is less vocal, more arranged and featured more improvisation than soul jazz, and retains a strong feel of groove and R&B versus some of the jazz fusion production.

IP Group

Aura (1989) was Miles Davis's final album released in his lifetime

Miles Davis

concept album

jazz

Departure from the Conventional

Palle Mikkelborg

2019

November

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In 1984, Danish trumpeter Palle Mikkelborg composed this ambitious ten-part concept suite for Miles Davis, based upon his audial perceptions of the jazz legend's aura. Recorded in Copenhagen the suite included John McLaughlin, percussionist Marilyn Mazur and others. ***Aura*** successfully blends Miles' electric style with the feel of his earlier Big-Band works with Gil Evans, another of Mikkelborg's prime inspirations.

IP Group

Groove Collective

acid jazz

jazz

Departure from the Conventional

2019

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The music played by a generation raised on jazz as well as funk and hip-hop, ***Acid Jazz*** used elements of all three. Its existence as a percussion-heavy, primarily live music placed it closer to jazz and Afro-Cuban than any other dance style, but its insistence on keeping the groove allied it with funk, hip-hop, and dance music.

IP Group

2020

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jazz

Departure from the Conventional

IP Group

MEDIART
ADVERTISING AGENCY

Concept and Design: Tamar Gedevanishvili
Konstantine Tadumadze

4a Pekini st., Office 2, Tbilisi, Georgia
Tel.: (995 32)236 96 42, 251 92 08
E-mail: office@mediaart.ge
www.mediaart.ge