



The name says it all...

# Just Jazz

November 2017

Hi Friends —

OK, here's something I don't get: **vinyl records and the fetish that "audiophiles" — and even some normal people — have for them.** (Here's something else I don't get: pumpkin spice *everything*. But that's another story.)

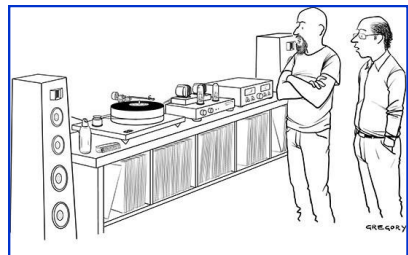
I simply can't think of a single advantage that compact discs don't have over this archaic format:

- **ease:** You want to find and play a single track, and only that track, in the middle of a recording? CDs can do that with the push of a button, two at the most, without missing a note.
- **durability:** You have to work awfully hard to scratch a CD to death. But every go-round of a vinyl platter, no matter how careful, moves it one groove closer to the LP graveyard.
- **length:** Two LPs can be fit onto a single CD, something the few responsible record labels do when reissuing classic jazz albums. And then there are those two magic words: *bonus tracks*.
- **storage:** They are called *compact discs* for a good and obvious reason.

**"Ooooh, But vinyl sounds so much warmer," the fetishists swoon.** Nonsense. There is nothing inherently "warmer" about vinyl. Sure, there were flaws with the earliest CDs. The processes used to remove the natural hiss from pre-LP vintage records robbed those classic sides of their treble sonorities. (LP reissues of these tracks had their own flaws.) On the other hand, some early CD reissues of stereo records, like J.J. Johnson's 1964 *Proof Positive*, came out too bright. But in the more than three decades since the first CDs appeared, the technology and its use have been refined significantly. Listen to the 2011 CD reissue of the two Sinatra-Basie studio albums. (Yes, they are on a *single disc*.) You'll hear subtleties in Neal Hefti's and Quincy Jones' charts that you won't get on any vinyl version. (MP3s, however, do suck, and for many reasons.)

Franky, I think the record labels are trying to play us for suckers. It's what they always do, right? I mean how many goddamned times do they expect me to buy the "new and improved" reissues of *Kind of Blue* and *A Love Supreme*? And the vinyl thing? Same deal. Tell willing consumers that a less convenient, less durable, outdated format is actually better than the latest, most advanced technology, which they probably already own, and some of them might just buy it — literally. What's next? Shellac 78s? **And don't get me started on "glorious monaural."**

Stay cool, and keep list'nin',  
Bob



"The two things that really drew me to vinyl were the expense and the inconvenience."

## Special Shows and Features

11/12: **Songs of Autumn (Hour 3)**

2017 marks the **100th birthday anniversary** of the great **Ella Fitzgerald**. And so, I am celebrating Ella and her music all year long on *Just Jazz* featuring *The Sinatra Hour*.



Nelson Riddle & Ella

*Just Jazz* featuring *The Sinatra Hour* is heard every Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m. Eastern Time (US) over WRNJ 104.7 & 92.7 FM and 1510 AM and streaming worldwide at [tunein.com/radio/WRNJ](http://tunein.com/radio/WRNJ)

## Quotes of the Month

The best defense of the two-party system is the argument that while it permits the majority party to govern, as it should, it also centralizes the opposition in a single minority group, thus preventing the dissipation of minority energy in sectarian disputes and checking any tyrannical tendencies on the part of the "ins." This argument has seldom fitted the facts of American life.

— historian  
**Richard Hofstadter**

The country not only needs a third party, it needs a second party.

— comedian **Mort Sahl**

## RECOMMENDED INTERNET JAZZ RADIO

[wemu.org](http://wemu.org): Linda Yohn starts your day right with three and a half hours of jazz and blues. Mon.-Fri. 9:00-12:30 ET.

[Late Night Jazz with Rusty Hassan](#): a Hall of Fame jazz broadcaster. Thurs. 10:00-midnight ET

[Café Latino](#): Singer-songwriter [Laura Fernandez](#) features two hours of Latin music. Sat. 4:00-6:00 p.m. ET on Toronto's Jazz FM91.

[Jazz Lives](#) hosted by Bob Dauber: "Classic jazz over the decades covering a variety of genres with one exception — Smooth." Mon. 8:00-10:00 p.m. ET

[Good Vibes](#): Gloria Krolak hosts the world's only radio show dedicated to the vibraphone. First Sun. of every month 8:00-10:00 p.m. ET.

[Jazz Spotlight on Sinatra](#): Nancy Barell presents Frank Sinatra's music through the decades, along with jazz instrumentalists and singers performing songs he recorded plus other beloved standards. Thurs. 7:00-8:00 p.m. and Tues 11:00 a.m.-noon.

And every Sunday after *Just Jazz* stay tuned to WRNJ and [tunein.com/radio/WRNJ](http://tunein.com/radio/WRNJ) for [The Tail-Finned Turntable](#) from 1:00 to 2:00 and [Still Rockin'](#) from 2:00 to 3:00, both hosted by "the Golden Gup," Gup Gascoigne.

## NEW & RECOMMENDED CDS

[Anat Cohen](#): *Happy Song (Anzic)*: Clarinetist Anat Cohen lends her bright tone, fluid technique, and rich imagination to a wide world of musical moods and modes in a new release that is a joy from start to finish. Backed by a diverse ten-piece ensemble led by musical director-arranger Oded Lev-Ari, Cohen explores music from Brazil (Egberto Gismonti's classic "Loro"), West Africa, and the Middle East, offers up a bit of funk, and even pays homage to Benny Goodman.

[David Feldman](#): *Horizonte (self-produced)*: This trio release by Rio-born pianist David Feldman is a finely crafted, exquisitely executed showcase for his formidable playing and writing talents. Two of his country's most eminent artists, guitarist-singer Toninho Horta and trombonist Raul de Souza, join Feldman and his supportive colleagues — bassist Andre Vasconcellos and drummer Marcio Bahia — on one track apiece and one more together.

[Arturo O'Farrill / Chucho Valdés](#): *Familia: Tribute to Bebo + Chico (Motema)*: *Familia* — "family" — and legacy are the dual inspirations behind this ambitious double CD package. On Disc One pianist-composers Arturo O'Farrill and Chucho Valdés perform, with O'Farrill's impeccable Afro Latin Jazz Orchestra, vintage and new works honoring two giants of Afro-Cuban jazz, their fathers, Chico O'Farrill and Bebo Valdés. Disc Two presents the exciting, young Third Generation Ensemble featuring trumpeter Zack and drummer Adam O'Farrill (sons of Chico) and drummer Jessie and pianist Leyanis Valdés (sons of Chucho). The past, present, and future of Afro-Cuban music are all here, side by side, alive and thriving.

## UPCOMING AREA JAZZ EVENTS

**Sun., November 12, 3:00:** tenor saxophonist [Grant Stewart & 3Divas](#) (Jackie Warren, piano; **Amy Shook**, bass; **Sherrie Maricle**, drums)

\$25 advance / \$30 at the door. *For Additional Savings [Click Here](#) to purchase 5- or 3-concert sets.*

Rutherford Hall, 1686 Rt.517, Allamuchy, NJ

908-852-1894 ext. 138 or 908-637-6455

**Mon. November 13, 7:30:** [Bickford Theatre Jazz Showcase](#)

**The Bickford Benefit All-Stars:** **Dan Levinson**, clarinet; **Mike Davis**, cornet; **Jim Fryer**, trombone; **Jeff Barnhart**, piano; **Brian Nalepka**, bass; **Stéphane Séva**, drums; **Molly Ryan**, guitar-vocals

\$25 members / \$22 non-members advance / \$27 non-members at the door

The Morris Museum, 6 Normandy Heights Road, Morristown, NJ; 973-971-3706

*This annual benefit concert supports programming and performances at the Bickford Theatre.*

The **New Brunswick Jazz Project** — "bringing great Jazz to Central Jersey" — regularly offers jazz events at numerous venues throughout New Brunswick, NJ. Click [HERE](#) for their monthly schedule.

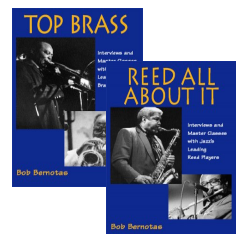
## Acclaimed Jazz Books by Bob

*Top Brass: Interviews and Master Classes with Jazz's Leading Brass Players*

[temporarily out of print]

*Reed All About It: Interviews and Master Classes with Jazz's Leading Reed Players*

\$20, plus shipping  
[jazzbob.com](http://jazzbob.com)



Bob Bernotas • host of *Just Jazz* featuring *The Sinatra Hour*  
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