

SARAH VAUGHAN & FRIENDS

WITH DON CHERRY, MAYNARD FERGUSON, DIZZY GILLESPIE, AL HIRT,
HERBIE HANCOCK, CHUCK MANGIONE, RON CARTER AND BILLY HIGGINS



A Night of Sass & Brass

This concert brings the great jazz vocalist Sarah Vaughan together with some of the most popular and accomplished brass players in jazz, backed by an advanced rhythm section composed of Ron Carter on bass, Billy Higgins on drums, and Herbie Hancock on piano. Interesting collaborations result from the "all-star" approach, in which a strikingly wide variety of jazz trumpet styles is unified, in part, by the superb singing of Vaughan herself.

Many of the artists convened here are leading lights and stalwarts of the post-war music widely known as "modern jazz." Two modern-jazz generations are represented: Dizzy Gillespie was one of the founders of bebop in the 1940's; in the 1960's and '70's, Herbie Hancock extended the developments pioneered by modern-jazz leaders, helping bring jazz together with rock and funk and delving into electronics.

When it comes to brass, Gillespie and Don Cherry are the most important exponents of modern jazz heard here. A leading contribution to bop was only one aspect of the impact that Gillespie had on postwar jazz: along with extending the developments of swing in the edgy, harmonically advanced, athletic small groups of classic bop—moving jazz from a dance-band form to a connoisseur's "listening" art—Gillespie also led important big bands that, in their way, contributed to the "cooler" sounds and orchestral textures of the post-bop developments of the 1950's; along the way, he became one of the best-loved and most widely recognized figures in jazz. Don Cherry first came to renown with the Ornette Coleman band, which by the early 1960's was breaking through the conventions of bop and cool jazz to play, often at the speed of bop, highly unexpected harmonies, involving extreme dissonances and raw, even controversial timbres, at times breaking away from standard structures and pursuing free improvisation.

Another group of trumpeters is represented here as well: Al Hirt, Maynard Ferguson, and Chuck Mangione share many influences and accomplishments with the modern-jazz innovators, but each is a purveyor of a highly recognizable trumpet sound, less nuanced and artistically adventurous than those of Gillespie and Cherry, yet extremely popular and enduring. Ferguson came to fame in the band of Stan Kenton, who combined jazz with avant-garde European art music and fostered the careers of many young white players; known for his ability to play in tune at showily high registers, Ferguson readily absorbed a multitude of influences and became a ubiquitous presence on Hollywood soundtracks; he had a top-forty hit with "Gonna Fly Now" for the *Rocky* movies. Chuck Mangione, who trained in part in the Jazz Messengers (led by the hard-bop pioneer Art Blakey), turned his remarkable technique to a series of smooth, easy-listening albums that made him one of the best-known artists in the pop music of the 1970's and '80's. Al Hirt, keeping alive the original jazz sounds of his native New Orleans, which in nostalgia circles came to be known as Dixieland, became an internationally figure of the '50's and '60's.

In this concert, "Bags' Groove," "Round Midnight," and "Take the 'A' Train" put the featured trumpeters together and showcase their strikingly varied styles. That these performances are so effective is testament in part to the mutual respect of all the jazzmen involved and in part to Sarah Vaughan's always extraordinary singing, which brought jazz technique, imagination, and invention to the most inviting kind of pop appeal. Here Vaughan gives eye-opening interpretations of standards, using her own touring combo, and adds gorgeous vocal lines to the instrumental jazz numbers, showcasing her own importance to the innovations of modern jazz.

WILLIAM HOGELAND







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& FRIENDS

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*a Night of Sass &
Brass*

DON CHERRY, MAYNARD FERGUSON,
DIZZY GILLESPIE, AL HIRT,
CHUCK MANGIONE - TRUMPET
HERBIE HANCOCK - PIANO

- 1 **Opening theme:
Watermelon Man**
(H. Hancock)

SARAH VAUGHAN - VOCAL
GEORGE GAFFNEY - PIANO
ANDY SIMPKINS - BASS
HAROLD JONES - DRUMS

- 2 **I Can't Give You
Anything But Love**
(J. McHugh/D. Fields)

- 3 **Just Friends**
(J. Klenner/S. Lewis)

- 4 **Send In The Clowns**
(S. Sondheim)

DON CHERRY - TRUMPET
HERBIE HANCOCK - PIANO
RON CARTER - BASS
BILLY HIGGINS - DRUMS

- 5 **Bimsha Swing**
(T. Monk/D. Best)

MAYNARD FERGUSON - VOCAL, TRUMPET
AL HIRT - TRUMPET
HERBIE HANCOCK - PIANO
RON CARTER - BASS
BILLY HIGGINS - DRUMS

- 6 **I Can't Get Started**
(V. Duke/I. Gershwin)

SARAH VAUGHAN - VOCAL
DIZZY GILLESPIE - TRUMPET
HERBIE HANCOCK - PIANO
RON CARTER - BASS
BILLY HIGGINS - DRUMS

- 7 **'Round Midnight**
(T. Monk/B. Hanighen/C. Williams)

SARAH VAUGHAN - VOCAL
CHUCK MANGIONE,
DON CHERRY, AL HIRT,
MAYNARD FERGUSON - TRUMPET
HERBIE HANCOCK - PIANO
RON CARTER - BASS
BILLY HIGGINS - DRUMS

- 8 **Bags' Groove**
(M. Jackson)

SARAH VAUGHAN - VOCAL
DON CHERRY, DIZZY GILLESPIE,
CHUCK MANGIONE, AL HIRT,
MAYNARD FERGUSON - TRUMPET
HERBIE HANCOCK - PIANO
RON CARTER - BASS
BILLY HIGGINS - DRUMS

- 9 **Take The 'A' Train**
(B. Strayhorn)

DON CHERRY, MAYNARD FERGUSON,
DIZZY GILLESPIE, AL HIRT,
CHUCK MANGIONE - TRUMPET
HERBIE HANCOCK - PIANO
RON CARTER - BASS
BILLY HIGGINS - DRUMS

- 10 **Closing theme:
Watermelon Man
(reprise)**
(H. Hancock)

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& FRIENDS



Recorded at the
Storyville Jazz Hall,
New Orleans, 1986

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ARTWORK: ELIAN, EMST-HOLLAND
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