

THELONIOUS MONK GENIUS OF MODERN MUSIC



CD1:

- 01 Humph
- 02 Evonce
- 03 Suburban Eyes
- 04 Thelonious
- 05 Nice Work If You Can Get It
- 06 Ruby My Dear
- 07 Well You Needn't
- 08 April in Paris
- 09 Off Minor
- 10 Introspection
- 11 In Walked Bud
- 12 Monk's Mood
- 13 Who Knows
- 14 'Round Midnight
- 15 Four in One
- 16 Criss Cross
- 17 Eronel
- 18 Straight No Chaser
- 19 Ask Me Now
- 20 Willow Weep for Me
- 21 Skippy
- 22 Hornin' In
- 23 Sixteen
- 24 Carolina Moon

TT: 75:51

CD2:

- 01 Let's Cool One
- 02 I'll Follow You
- 03 Evidence
- 04 Misterioso
- 05 Epistrophy
- 06 I Mean You
- 07 All the Things You Are
- 08 I Should Care
- 09 Reflections
- 10 Misterioso
- 11 Shuffle Boil*
- 12 Brake's Sake*
- 13 Gallop's Gallop*
- 14 Nica's Tempo*
- 15 Eronel [Solo piano version]*
- 16 Evidence [Solo piano version]*
- 17 Well You Needn't [Solo piano version]*
- 18 'Round Midnight [Solo piano version]*

TT: 78:34

Although there are some earlier informal testimonies of Thelonious Monk's playing, his recording career truly started when he began working for Alfred Lion's Blue Note label in 1947. The Blue Note dates, containing the earliest versions of Monk's most brilliant compositions, appeared on the albums *Genius of Modern Music Vol.1 & Vol.2* (Blue Note BLP-1510/1511). This release brings together Monk's master takes from all of his Blue Note sessions, also including two extended tunes from a 1957 Sonny Rollins date. A magnificent 1955 quartet date co-led by Monk and alto saxophonist Gigi Gryce, and four unaccompanied piano versions by Monk of compositions he had first recorded for Blue Note, have been added as a bonus.

THELONIOUS MONK, piano

On all tracks, plus:

Collective personnel: **Sahib Shihab**, **Lou Donaldson** (as), **Lucky Thompson**, **Sonny Rollins** (ts), **Kenny Dorham**, **Idrees Sulieman** (tp), **Milt Jackson** (vibes), **Gene Ramey**, **Paul Chambers** (b), **Art Blakey**, **Max Roach** (d), among others.

Recorded in New York between 1947 and 1957.

All sessions produced by Alfred Lion.

*BONUS TRACKS

CD2, 11-14: Gigi Gryce (as), Thelonious Monk (p), Percy Heath (b), Art Blakey (d). New York, October 15, 1955.
CD2, 15-18: Thelonious Monk (unaccompanied piano). Paris, France, June 7, 1954.

★★★★★ **AllMusic**: "It's impossible to overstate the importance of these sessions. They include some of the earliest recordings of Monk compositions that would become standards. The excitement of discovery permeates every measure, and Monk himself is in top form, his solos jagged and strange, yet utterly beautiful. *Genius of Modern Music* belongs in every jazz collection." (Rick Anderson)

★★★★★ **Penguin Guide to Jazz**: "The Blue Notes are essential Monk recordings, no less achieved and magisterial for being his first as a leader." (Richard Cook & Brian Morton)

16-PAGE BOOKLET INCLUDING 10 OUTSTANDING PHOTOS BY FRANCIS WOLFF

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Cover photo: Thelonious Monk playing at an unknown New York club, May 1952. Inlay photo: Monk at his *Sextet* session of May 30, 1952, WOR Studios, New York City. All digipack and booklet photos by Francis Wolff © Mosaic Images.

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