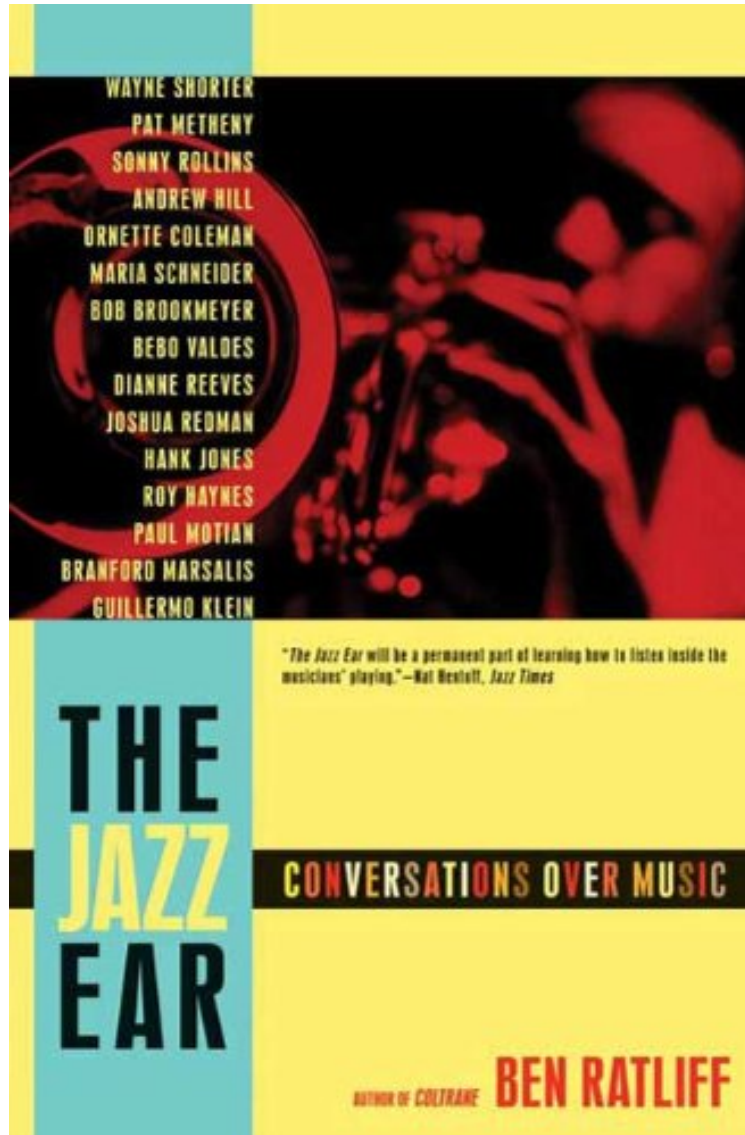


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The Jazz Ear: Conversations over Music

Ben Ratliff

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Ben Ratliff : The Jazz Ear: Conversations over Music before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Jazz Ear: Conversations over Music:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Learned a lot about history of jazzBy planosueVery much enjoyed this book. As a novice to jazz history I especially enjoyed the format of this book in which Ratliff interviews well known jazz artists (those in late career or retirement as well as some in their early careers). InterestinglyRatliff does not directly ask those he interviewed about their own music and careers...rather he asks about the artists who have most influenced those interviewed. Using this strategy, Ratliff covers a broad range of jazz history. I learned a lot..very interesting.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great gift for Jazz loversBy The S manI got this

as a gift for my father who loves jazz, he liked it a lot, it brought to life many of the big names he has known and listened to. It is good for basic to advanced fans of jazz, he probably fall somewhere in between and felt the content was not too technical.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good giftBy Sami got this for someone as a Christmas gift and they started reading it that night. It seems really interesting and they really liked it.

An intimate exploration into the musical genius of fifteen living jazz legends, from the longtime New York Times jazz critic Jazz is conducted almost wordlessly: John Coltrane rarely told his quartet what to do, and Miles Davis famously gave his group only the barest instructions before recording his masterpiece "Kind of Blue." Musicians are often loath to discuss their craft for fear of destroying its improvisational essence, rendering jazz among the most ephemeral and least transparent of the performing arts. In *The Jazz Ear*, the acclaimed music critic Ben Ratliff sits down with jazz greats to discuss recordings by the musicians who most influenced them. In the process, he skillfully coaxes out a profound understanding of the men and women themselves, the context of their work, and how jazz—;from horn blare to drum riff—;is created conceptually. Expanding on his popular interviews for *The New York Times*, Ratliff speaks with Sonny Rollins, Ornette Coleman, Branford Marsalis, Dianne Reeves, Wayne Shorter, Joshua Redman, and others about the subtle variations in generation, training, and attitude that define their music. Playful and keenly insightful, *The Jazz Ear* is a revelatory exploration of a unique way of making and hearing music.