

JAZZ STATION - ARNALDO DESOUTEIRO'S BLOG (JAZZ, BOSSA & BEYOND)

LOS ANGELES-BASED JAZZ HISTORIAN, EDUCATOR AND RECORD PRODUCER. VOTING MEMBER OF NARAS-GRAMMY, JAZZ JOURNALISTS ASSOCIATION AND LOS ANGELES JAZZ SOCIETY. FOUNDER & CEO OF JAZZ STATION RECORDS (JSR), A DIVISION OF JAZZ STATION MARKETING & CONSULTING - LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA.

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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2012

The Best Jazz of 2012

Os melhores do jazz em 2012 - The Best Jazz of 2012!



The results of the 34th Annual Jazz Station Poll conducted by jazz journalist, jazz historian & jazz educator Arnaldo DeSouteiro. Chick Corea (pictured above), Stanley Clarke, Ron Carter, Toots Thielemans, Mike Longo, John McLaughlin, Al Jarreau, Jürgen Friedrich, Randy Brecker and Till Brönner are among the top artists of the year.

Only albums recorded or released in 2012 were eligible.

A seleção dos “melhores do jazz”, feita pelo historiador Arnaldo DeSouteiro, publicada pela primeira vez em 1979, chega ao 34º ano. Chick Corea com a turma do Return To Forever, Toots Thielemans, Ron Carter, John McLaughlin, Jürgen Friedrich, Mike Longo, Al Jarreau, Till Brönner e Randy Brecker estão entre os artistas que brilharam em 2012.

Esta é a lista dos que mais se destacaram, em 2012, no panorama jazzístico internacional. Atendendo aos pedidos dos leitores, que desde 1979 acompanham essa votação, incluímos – após os nomes de todos os colocados em cada categoria – os títulos dos trabalhos (CDs ou DVDs) pelo quais os artistas foram avaliados, com base apenas em lançamentos realizados no decorrer deste ano.

Para variar, foram necessárias várias semanas para a preparação de todas estas listas, reouvindo CDs, revendo DVDs, checando fichas técnicas e, às vezes, reavaliando opiniões. Tudo isso com o objetivo de fornecer o mais fiel possível retrato do cenário jazzístico em 2012, a partir de bases reais de análise.

O que significa, por exemplo, que artistas que não lançaram novos trabalhos este ano, seja como líderes ou sidemen, tornaram-se, por mais geniais que sejam, automaticamente inelegíveis. Tal critério explica a ausência de feras como Mark Murphy, Andy Bey, Jon Hendricks, Gene Bertoncini e Carla Bley que, apesar de terem realizado muitos shows, não lançaram novos trabalhos em 2012.

Vários discos premiados em 2012, com atraso, pelas revistas especializadas (“Road Shows Vol.2” de Sonny Rollins, por exemplo), não aparecem na nossa lista por uma simples razão: constaram da relação de 2011.

Aí estão os resultados completos:



Acoustic Piano: 1º Mike Longo (“A Celebration of Diz and Miles” – CAP); 2º

Ahmad Jamal (“Blue Moon” – Jazz Village); 3° Marc Copland (“Some More Love Songs” – Pirouet); 4° Oriente Lopez (“Aguas Profundas” – OHL); 5° Pablo Held (“Trio Live” – Pirouet); 6° Gonzalo Rubalcaba (“XXI Century” – 5Passion); 7° Bill Carrothers (“Castaways” – Pirouet); 8° Harold Mabern (“Mr. Lucky” – High Note); 9° Hiromi (“Live in Marciac” DVD – Telarc); 10° George Cables (“My Muse” – High Note); 11° Fred Hersch (“Alive at the Village Vanguard” – Palmetto)



Electric Piano: 1° José Roberto Bertrami (“Aurora” w/ Azymuth – Far Out); 2° Bob James (“These Are The CTI Years” - WildLife); 3° Roberto Di Gioia (“Till Brönner” w/ T. Brönner – Verve); 4° Jasper Soffers (“Till Brönner” w/ T. Bronner – Verve); 5° Nerio Poggi (“Music Inside” w/ Papik - Irma); 6° Gary Versace (“Wah Wah” w/ Torben Waldorff - ArtistShare); 7° Art Hirahara (“Tell Me” w/ Russ Nolan – Rhinoceruss); 8° Fabio Torres (“O Universo Musical de Raul de Souza” DVD – SESC); 9° Robert Glasper (“Heritage” w/ Lionel Louke – Blue Note); 10° Jeff Lorber (“Galaxy” – Heads Up); 11° Tom Wetmore (“The Desired Effect” – Crosstown)

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Organ: 1° Joey DeFrancesco (“Wonderful! Wonderful!” – High Note); 2° Dr. Lonnie Smith (“The Healer” – Pilgrimage); 3° Francesco Gazzara (“Another Steppin’ Soul” w/ Hammond Express – Irma); 4° Tony Monaco (“Celebration: Life Love Music” – Chicken Coup); 5° Gary Versace (“Wah-Wah” w/ Torben Waldorff – Artist Share); 6° Florent Gac (“Colombe” w/ David Reinhardt Trio – Cristal); 7° Will Blades (“Shimmy” w/ Billy Martin – The Royal Potato Family); 8° Jared Gold (“Total Eclipse” w/ Ralph Bowen – Posi-Tone); 9° Brian Charette (“Music for Organ Sextette” – Steeplechase)



Keyboards: 1° Chick Corea (“The Mothership Returns” w/ Return To Forever – Eagle); 2° José Roberto Bertrami (“Aurora” w/ Azymuth – Far Out); 3° Hans-Peter Pfammatter (“Rotten Magic” w/ Scope – Vote); 4° Gary Husband (“Now Here This” w/ John McLaughlin); 5° Jason Lindner (“Casting for Gravity” w/ Donny McCaslin – Greenleaf); 6° Francesco Gazzara (“Another Steppin’ Soul” w/ Hammond Express – Irma); 7° Oriente Lopez (“Aguas Profundas” – OHL)



Acoustic Bass: 1° Ron Carter (“San Sebastian” – In+Out); 2° Georg Breinschmid (“Fire” – Preiser); 3° Stanley Clarke (“The Mothership Returns” w/ Return To Forever – Eagle) ; 4° Eddie Gomez (“Per Sempre” – BFM); 5° Arild

Andersen (“Celebration” – ECM); 6º Drew Gress (“Castaways” w/ Bill Carrothers – Pirouet); 7º Henning Sieverts (“Symmethree” – Pirouet); 8º Charlie Haden (“Come Sunday” – EmArcy); 9º Andrea Veneziani (“OltreOceano” – Veneziani)



Electric Bass: 1º Stanley Clarke (“The Mothership Returns” w/ Return To Forever – Eagle); 2º Anthony Jackson (“Live in Marciac” w/ Hiromi – Telarc); 3º Marcus Miller (“Renaissance” - Concord); 4º Will Lee (“These Are The CTI Years” w/ Bob James Quintet - WildLife); 5º Mark Egan (“Time Together” w/ Michael Franks - Shanachie); 6º Etienne M’Bappe (“Now Here This” w/ John McLaughlin – Abstract Logix); 7º Itaiguara Brandão (“Aguas Profundas” w/ Oriente Lopez – OHL); 8º Albert Johnson (“Till Brønner” w/ T. Brønner - Verve)



Drums: 1º Steve Gadd (“These Are The CTI Years” w/ Bob James Quintet - WildLife); 2º Lenny White (“The Mothership Returns” w/ Return To Forever – Eagle); 3º Mauricio Zottarelli (“Aguas Profundas” w/ Oriente Lopez Trio – OHL); 4º Jack DeJohnette (“Sound Travels” – eONE); 5º Paul Wertico (“Breaking The Cycle” w/ Marbin – MoonJune); 6º Dré Pallemmaerts (“Castaways” w/ Bill

Carrothers – Pirouet); 7º Billy Hart (“All Our Reasons” – ECM); 8º Ranjit Barot (“Now Here This” w/ John McLaughlin – Abstract Logix)



Percussion: 1º Aírto Moreira (“Azul” w/ Anne Sajdera – Bijuri); 2º Pete Escovedo (“Live from Stern Grove Festival” – Concord Picante); 3º Manolo Badrena (“Blue Moon” w/ Ahmad Jamal – Jazz Village); 4º Roland Peil (“Till Brönnér” w/ T. Brönnér - Verve); 5º Poncho Sanchez (“Live in Hollywood” – Concord Picante); 6º Lenny Castro (“Galaxy” w/ Jeff Lorber Fusion – Heads Up); 7º Simone Talone (“Music Inside” w/ Papik - Irma); 8º Raffaele Pizzonia (“Music Inside” w/ Papik - Irma); 9º Dan Weiss (“Rayuela” w/ Miguel Zenón & Laurent Coq – Sunnyside)



Vibes/Marimba: 1° Bobby Hutcherson (“Somewhere in the Night” – Kind of Blue); 2° Mark Sherman (“The LA Sessions” – Miles High); 3° Gary Burton (“Hot House” w/ Chick Corea – ECM); 4° Steve Nelson (“Three Things of Beauty” w/ Bruce Barth – High Note); 5° Stefon Harris (“Live at Cubadisco” w/ Ninety Miles – Concord Picante); 6° Roger Svedberg (“A Tribute to Milt Jackson” (RS)); 7° Jason Adasiewicz (“Spacer” – Delmark); 8° Joe Locke (“Signing” w/ Geoffrey Keezer Group – Motéma); 9° Charles Xavier (“Xmas Vibe” – Happy Note);



Miscellaneous Instruments: 1° Toots Thielemans - harmonica (“Toots 90 - Challenge); 2° Béla Fleck - banjo (“Across the Imaginary Divide” – Rounder); 3° Henning Sieverts – cello (“Symmethree” – Pirouet); 4° Eugene Friesen – cello (“Being in Love” w/ Amikaeyla – RootsJazz); 5° Edmar Castaneda – Colombian harp (“Double Portion” – Arpa y Voz); 6° Hank Roberts – cello (“Everything is Alive” – Winter & Winter); 7° Giovanna Pessi – baroque harp (“If Grief Could Wait” – ECM); 8° Hendrik Meurkens – harmonica (“Aguas Profundas” w/ Oriente Lopez – OHL); 9° Guy Klucevsek – accordion (“The Multiple Personality Reunion Tour” – Innova); 10° Grégoire Maret - harmonica (“Grégoire Maret” – eOne)



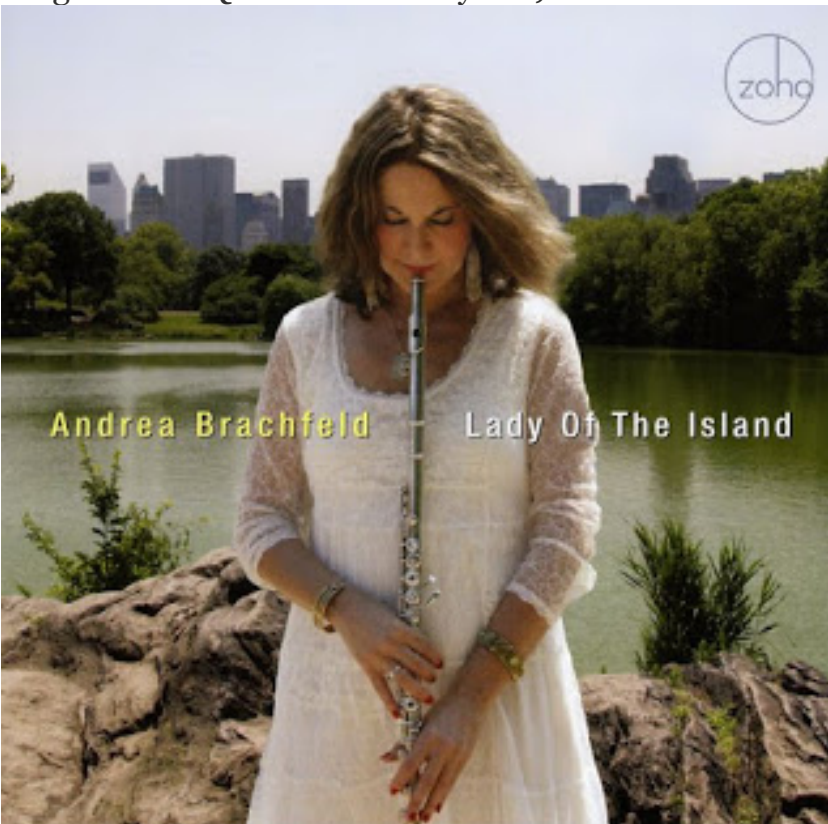
Acoustic Guitar: 1° Al DiMeola (“Morocco Fantasia” DVD – Inakustik); 2° Frank Gambale (“The Mothership Returns” w/ The Return to Forever – Eagle); 4° Grant Geissman (“Bop! Bang! Boom!” – Futurism); 5° Romero Lubambo (“Aguas Profundas” w/ Oriente Lopez – OHL)



Electric Guitar: 1° John McLaughlin (“Now Here This” – Abstract Logix); 2° Pat Metheny (“Unit Band” - Nonesuch); 3° Larry Coryell (“Wonderful! Wonderful!” w/ Joey DeFrancesco – High Note); 4° Torben Waldorff (“Wah-Wah” – Artist Share); 5° Frank Gambale (“The Mothership Returns” w/ Return To Forever – Eagle); 6° Russell Malone (“San Sebastian” w/ Ron Carter – In +Out); 7° Bobby Broom (“Upper West Side Story” – Origin); 8° John Abercrombie (“Within A Song” – ECM); 9° Mike Stern (“All Over The Place”)



Violin: 1° Jean-Luc Ponty (“The Mothership Returns” w/ Return To Forever – Eagle Rock); 2° Jenny Scheinman (“Mischief & Mayhem – JSM); 3° Zach Brock (“Tell Me” w/ Russ Nolan – Rhinoceruss); 4° Guilherme Rubino (“Tongos” w/ Diego Schissi Quinteto – Sunnyside)



Flute: 1° Andrea Brachfeld (“Lady of the Island” – Zoho); 2° Dave McMurray (“These Are The CTI Years” w/ Bob James Quintet – WildLife); 3° Nicole Mitchell (“Arc of O” – RogueArt); 4° Dan Pratt (“A Portrait of Brooklyn” w/ Brooklyn Jazz Underground – BJU); 5° Magnus Lindgren (“Till Brönner” w/ T.

Brönner - Verve)

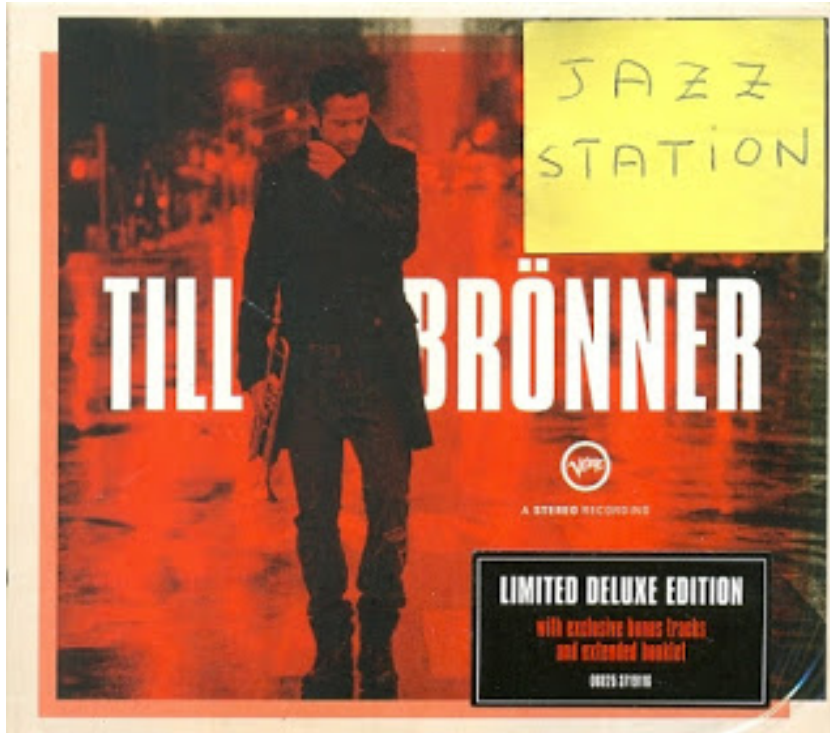


Clarinet/Bass Clarinet: 1° Rolf Kühn (“Lifeline” w/ Joachim Kühn – Impulse); 2° Lucien Dubuis (“Rotten Magic” w/ Scope – Veto); 3° Louis Sclavis (“Sources” – ECM); 4° Anat Cohen (“Chiaroscuro” – Anzic); 5° Frank Brown (“Live at Zankel” w/ Chris Brubeck’s Triple Play – Blue Forest); 6° Aaron Novik (“Secrets of Secrets” – Tzadik); 7° Nico Gori (“Da Vinci” w/ Fred Hersch – Bee Jazz); 8° François Houle (“Genera” – Songlines); 9° Victor Goines (“Twilight” – Rosemary Joseph Rec.); 10° Magnus Lindgren (“Till Brönner” w/ T. Brönner - Verve)



Trumpet: 1° Randy Brecker (“Better Get Hit In Your Soul” DVD w/ Metropole Orkest – ZYX); 2° Till Brönner (“Till Brönner” – Verve); 3° Allen Vizzutti

("Ritzville" – Village Place); 4° Lew Soloff ("Sweet Chicago Suite" w/ Ray Anderson Pocket Brass Band); 5° Brian Lynch ("Unsung Heroes" – Holistic); 6° Tom Harrell ("The Time of the Sun" – High Note); 7° Pharez Whitted ("For The People" – Origin); 8° Arturo Sandoval ("Dear Diz" – Concord); 9° Joel Behrman ("Stepping Back" – Killer Kat); 10° Christian Scott ("Live at Cubadisco" – Concord Picante); 11° Dave Douglas ("Be Still" – Greenleaf)



Flugelhorn: 1° Till Brönner ("Till Brönner" - Verve); 2° Allen Vizzutti ("Ritzville" - Village Place); 3° Kenny Wheeler ("The Long Waiting" - CAM Jazz)



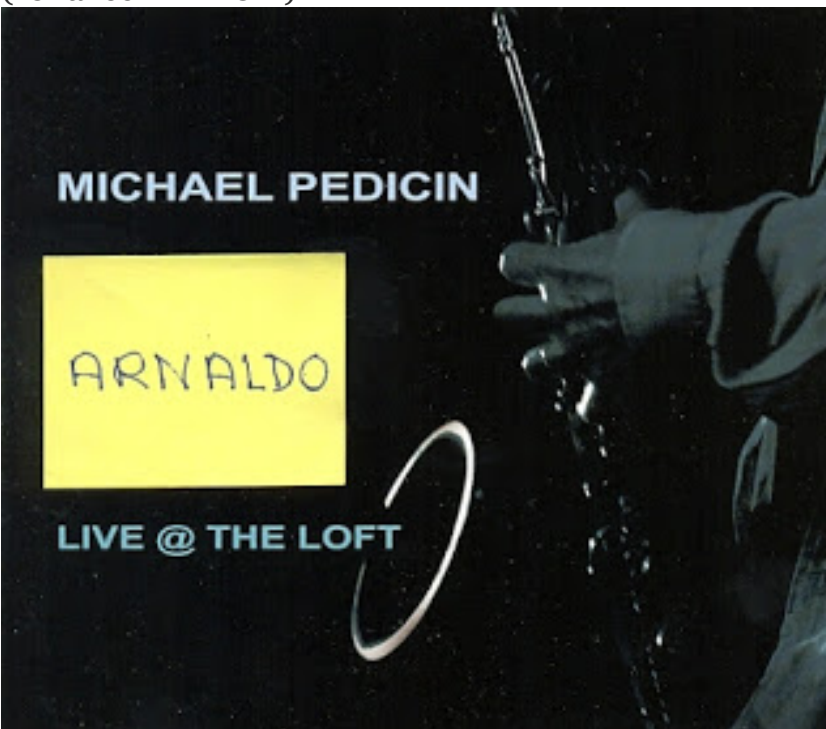
Trombone: 1º Raul de Souza (“O Universo Musical de Raul de Souza” DVD – SESC); 2º Conrad Herwig (“Better Get Hit In Your Soul” DVD w/ Metropole Orkest – ZYX); 3º Nils Wogram (“Symmethree” w/ Henning Sieverts – Pirouet); 4º Curtis Fuller (“Down Home” – Capri); 5º Chris Brubeck (“LifeTimes” w/ Brubeck Brothers – Blue Forest); 6º Ray Anderson (“Sweet Chicago Suite” – Intuition); 7º Steve Turre (“Woody’s Delight” – High Note); 8º Vincent Gardner (“The Book of Bebop” – Steeplechase); 9º Steve Davis (“Gettin’ It Done” – Posi-Tone)



Soprano Sax: 1º Branford Marsalis (“Four MFs Playin’ Tunes” – Marsalis); 2º Ravi Voltrane (“Spirit Fiction” – Blue Note); 3º Dave Liebman (“Surreality” – Enja); 4º Tia Fuller (“Angelic Warrior” – Mack Avenue); 5º Kirk Whalum (“Romance Language” – Rendezvous); 6º John Surman (“Saltash Bells” – ECM); 7º Chris Potter (“Unity Band” w/ Pat Metheny – Nonesuch); 8º Ernesto Vega (“Sounds of Space” w/ Alfredo Rodriguez – Mack Avenue); 9º Marco Pignataro (“Per Sempre” w/ Eddie Gomez – BFM);



Alto Sax: 1º Kenny Garrett (“Seeds from the Underground” – Mack Avenue); 2º Christian Weidner (“Dream Boogie” – Pirouet); 3º Hailey Niswanger (“The Keeper” – Calmit); 4º Vincent Herring (“Friendly Fire” w/ Eric Alexander – High Note); 5º Jorge Sylvester (“Spirit Driven” – Lizoka); 5º Caroline Davis (“Live Work & Play” – Ears & Eyes); 6º Tia Fuller (“Angelic Warrior” – Mack Avenue); 7º Miguel Zenón (“Rayuela” w/ Laurent Coq – Sunnyside); 8º Tim Berne (“Snakeoil” – ECM)



Tenor Sax: 1º Michael Pedicin (“Live @ The Loft” – The Jazz Hut); 2º Houston

Person (“Naturally” – High Note) ; 3° Russ Nolan (“Tell Me” – Rhinocerus); 4° David S. Ware (“Live at Jazzfestival Saalfelden” – AUM Fidelity); 5° Eric Alexander (“Friendly Fire” w/ Vincent Herring – High Note); 6° Dave McMurray (“These Are The CTI Years” w/ Bob James Quintet – WildLife); 7° Magnus Lindgren (“Till Brönner” w/ T. Brönner - Verve); 8° Donny McCaslin (“Casting for Gravity” – Greenleaf); 9° Joe Lovano (“Within A Song” w/ John Abercrombie” – ECM)



Baritone Sax: 1° Ronnie Cuber (“Better Get Hit In Your Soul” DVD w/ Metropole Orkest – ZYX); 2° Gary Smulyan (“Smul’s Paradise” – Capri); 3° John Surman (“Saltash Bells” – ECM); 4° Brian Landrus (“Traverse” – BlueLand)



Male Singer: 1° Al Jarreau (“Live” - Concord); 2° Kurt Elling (“1619 Broadway” – Concord) ; 3° Chris Conway (“Time Traveller” – Oblong); 4° Fred Buccini (“Unusual Nat” – Irma); 5° Gregory Porter (“Be Good” – Motéma); 6° Curtis Stigers (“Let’s Go Out Tonight” – Concord)



Female Singer: 1º Sandy Patton (“Painting Jazz Vol. II” – Unit); 2º Denise Donatelli (“Soul Shadows” – Savant); 3º Amikaeyla (“Being in Love” – RootsJazz); 4º Cassandra Wilson (“Another Country” – eOne); 5º Cristina Morrison (“I Love” – Baronesa); 6º Cheryl Bentley (“Let’s Misbehave” – Summit); 7º Rebecca Sullivan (“This Way, This Time” – Rhyme or Reason); 8º Nora McCarthy (“A Small Dream in Red” w/ Jorge Sylvester – Red Zen); 9º Elina Duni (“Matane Malit” – ECM); 10º Letizia Gambi (“Introducing Letizia Gambi” – Jando Music)

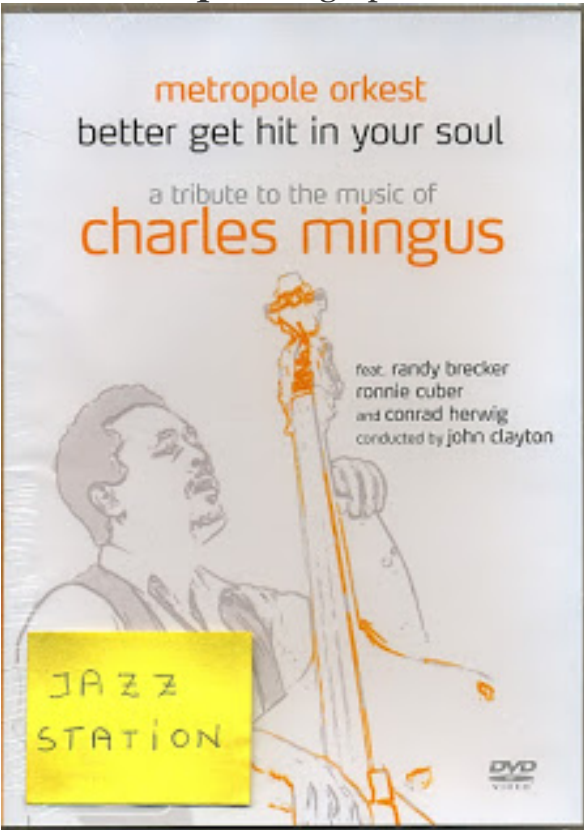


Instrumental Group: 1º Return To Forever (“The Mothership Returns” – Eagle); 2º Bob James Quintet (“These Are The CTI Years” – WildLife); 3º John McLaughlin and the 4th Dimension (“Now Here This” – Abstract Logix); 4º Rolf & Joachim Kühn Quartet (“Lifeline” – Impulse); 5º Marbin (“Breaking The Cycle” – MoonJune); 6º Oriente Lopez Trio (“Aguas Profundas” – OHL); 7º Ligro (“Dictionary 2” – MoonJune); 8º Scope (“Rotten Magic” – Veto); 9º Caroline

Davis Quartet (“Live Work & Play” – Ears & Eyes); 10º Fourplay (“Esprit De Four”)



Vocal Group: 1º Sugarpie and The Candymen (“Swing’n’Roll” – Irma);



Big Band/Jazz Orchestra: 1º Metropole Orkest (“Better Get Hit In Your Soul” DVD – ZYX); 2º Bob Mintzer Big Band (“For The Moment” – MCG); 3º Igor Butman Orchestra (“Scheherazade’s Tales” (Butman Music)); 4º Scottish National Jazz Orchestra (“Celebration” w/ Arild Andresen – ECM); 5º WDR Big Band (“Soul Classics” w/ Maceo Parker – Razor and Tie); 6º Florencia Gonzalez Big Band (“Woman Dreaming of Escape” - FG); 7º Kenny Wheeler Big Band (“The Long Waiting” – CAM Jazz); 8º Bobby Sanabria Big Band (“Multiverse” – Jazzheads)

Composer: 1º Jürgen Friedrich (“Monosuite” – Pirouet); 2º Chick Corea (“The Continents” – Deutsche Grammophon); 3º Carlos Franzetti (“Pierrot et Colombine” – Sunnyside); 4º Oriente Lopez (“Agua Profundas” – OHL); 5º Pharez Whitted (“For The People” – Origin); 6º Henning Sieverts (“Symmethree” – Pirouet);



Arranger: 1º Jürgen Friedrich (“Monosuite” – Pirouet); 2º Michel Legrand (“Legrand Jazz” DVD – Arthaus); 3º Nan Schwartz (“Till Brönner” – Verve); 4º Vince Mendoza (“Live” w/ Al Jarreau – Concord);



Artist of the Year: 1º Chick Corea (“The Mothership Returns” / “The Continents” / “Hot House” / “Further Explorations”); 2º Till Brönner (“Till Brönner”); 3º Jürgen Friedrich (“Monosuite”)



Engineer: 1° Rudy Van Gelder (“Naturally” w/ Houston Person – High Note); 2° Bernie Kirsh/Mick Guzauski (“The Mothership Returns” w/ Return To Forever – Eagle); 3° Dick Overeem/Paul Pouwer (“Better Get Hit In Your Soul” DVD w/ Metropole Orkest – ZYX); 4° Arne Schumann (“Till Brönner” w/ T. Bronner - Verve); 5° Ron Kurz (“Painting Jazz Vol. II” w/ Sandy Patton & Thomas Dürst - Unit); 6° Patrick MacDougall (“Ritzville” w/ Allen Vizzutti - Village Place); 7° Carlos Y. del Rosario (“Soul Shadows” w/ Denise Donatelli - Savant)



New Talent: 1° Caroline Davis – alto sax (“Live Work & Play” – Ears & Eyes);

2° Alfredo Rodriguez - acoustic piano ("Sounds of Space" – Mack Avenue); 3° Letizia Gambi – female vocal ("Introducing Letizia Gambi" – Jando Music); 4° Andrea Veneziani - acoustic bass ("Oltreoceano" - Veneziani); 5° Anne Sajdera - acoustic piano ("Azul" - Bijuri); 6° EricDiVito - electric guitar ("Breaking the Ice" - Pioneer Jazz Collective)