

Chopinesque Sentiment in Jazz

Module 14 of *Music: Under the Hood*

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Outline

- Biography of Dave Brubeck
- *Summer Song*

Biography

- Dave Brubeck, 1920-2012
 - Background doesn't fit the jazz stereotype
 - Lived on a cattle ranch.
 - Born to musical family in California.
 - Mother was a classically trained pianist.
 - His 2 older brothers became professional musicians.
 - Started piano lessons at age 4.



Brubeck on his father's ranch

Biography

- **Career**

- **Studied music in college**

- Paid the bills by playing in night clubs
 - Professors were surprised he could not yet read music.

- **Served under Patton in WWII**

- Formed an interracial jazz band, the Wolf Pack



Brubeck in the Army

Biography

- Career

- Dave Brubeck Quartet, formed 1951

- With Paul Desmond on sax (more on him later)
 - Most successful jazz combo in US at the time.

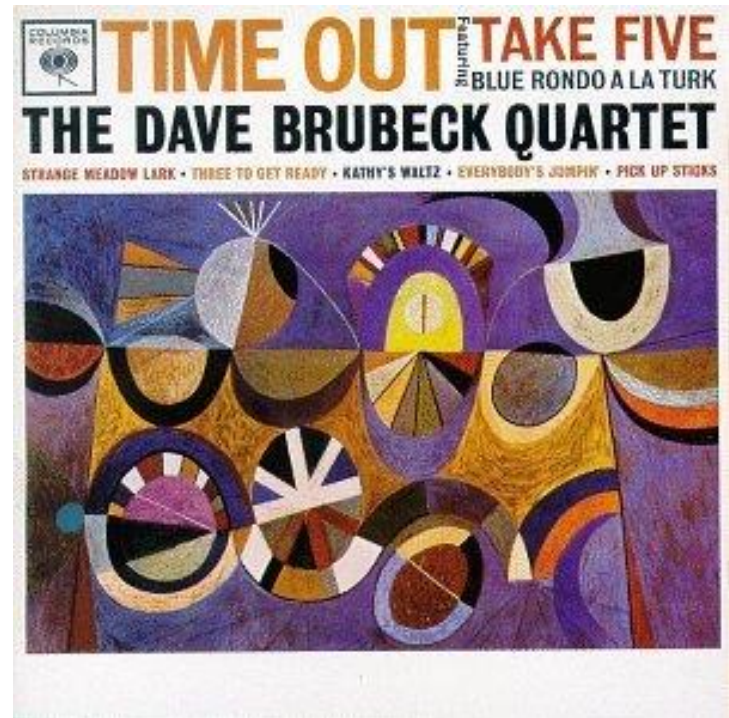


Biography

- Career

- Dave Brubeck Quartet, formed 1951

- Known for nonstandard meters (5/4, 9/8)
 - *Time Out* (1959) was first jazz album to sell more than a million copies.
 - Contains Paul Desmond's *Take Five*, which we will discuss later.



Biography

- Career

- Later work

- Performed with New York Philharmonic
 - Focused on spiritual music
 - Wrote an oratorio, *The Light in the Wilderness* (1968)
 - Received National Medal of the Arts from Bill Clinton, 1994



Biography

- Some songs
 - *In Your Own Sweet Way* (1955)
 - *The Duke* (1955)
 - *Summer Song* (1957)
 - *Blue Rondo a la Turk* (1959)
 - *A Raggedy Waltz* (1961)
 - *Blue Shadows in the Street* (1961)



Summer Song

- **Chopin-like sentiment**
 - Nostalgic, nuanced.
 - Lyrics by Iola Brubeck
 - Originally an instrumental.
 - Performed here by Brubeck on piano.

[Audio file](#)



Iola and Dave Brubeck

SUMMER SONG

Lyrics by
IOLA & DAVE BRUBECK

Music by
DAVE BRUBECK

Audio file

Melody is a
descending scale

Love to me is like a
summer day.

Silent, 'cause there's
just too much to say.

Still and warm and
peaceful!

Even clouds that may
drift by can't disturb our
summer sky.

I'll take summer, that's
my time of year.

Slow and easy (♩ = 63)

The musical score is written in F major with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The tempo is marked 'Slow and easy' with a quarter note equal to 63 beats per minute. The score is divided into four systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. Chord annotations are provided in red above the piano accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the vocal line. The first system includes the lyrics 'Love to me is' and the second system includes 'like a summer day - Si - lent, 'cause there's just too much to say.' The third system includes 'Still and warm and peaceful - E - ven clouds that may drift by can't dis -' and the fourth system includes 'turb our summer sky. I'll take sum - mer, that's my time of year.'

Chord annotations (in red):

- System 1: Fm(#7), Bbm7, Fm(#7), Bbm7, Fm(#7), Bbm7
- System 2: Eb7, Ab7, Db6, Gb, Ab7, F7, Bbm
- System 3: Gb, C7(#9), Fm, Bbm7, Ebm7, Ab13
- System 4: Fm7, Bbm7, Ebm7, Ab7, Fm(#7), Bbm7, Eb7, Ab7, Db6

Chord annotations (in red, below piano accompaniment):

- System 1: F:iii+7b9, vi7
- System 2: II7, V7, I6, Bb:VI, II7, V7, I
- System 3: Bb:VI, II7+9, V, I7, Eb:I7, IV6
- System 4: ii7, y7, I7

Winter shadows seem
to disappear.

Gayest, warmest
season!

That's the reason I can
say
that I love a summer
day.

I hear laughter from the
swimmin' hole,

Kids out fishin' with a
willow pole.

Boats come driftin'
'round the bend

Chords: G \flat , A \flat 7, F7, B \flat m, G \flat , C7(#9)

Win - ter shad - ows seem to dis - ap - pear. Gay - est, warm - est

Chords: Fm, B \flat m7, E \flat m7, A \flat 13, G \flat , A \flat , B \flat m

sea - son! That's the rea - son I can say that I love a sum - mer day.

Chords: D \flat , A \flat , B \flat m, B \flat m7, E \flat 7, A \flat 7, Fm7, B \flat m7, E \flat m7, A \flat 7, Fm7, B \flat m7

mp I hear laugh - ter from the swim - min' hole, Kids out fish - in'

I V vi⁷ II⁷ V⁷ iii⁷ A \flat :V⁰⁷ I vi⁷ ii⁷

Chords: E \flat 7, A \flat , A \flat 7, Fm7, B \flat m7, E \flat m, E \flat m7, E \flat m6

mp with a wil - low pole. Boats come drift - in' 'round the bend,

V⁷ I vi ii v⁷

Why must summer ever end?

Love to me is like a summer day.

If it ends, the memories will stay

Still and warm and peaceful.

Now the days are getting long,

I can sing my summer song

The image shows a musical score for the song "Why Must Summer Ever End?". It consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is B-flat major (three flats). The score is divided into systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. Chords are indicated above the vocal line. Red Roman numeral annotations are present in the piano accompaniment.

System 1:
Vocal: Why must sum - mer ev - er end? Love to me is
Piano: Chords: D^b, E^bm⁶, B^bm, E^b, D^bma^j7, E^bm⁶, F^m(#7), B^bm7
Annotations: IV v⁶ - vi⁷, V IVma^j7 v⁶

System 2:
Vocal: like a sum - mer day. If it ends, the mem - o - ries will stay
Piano: Chords: E^b7, A^b7, D^b6, G^b, A^b7, F7, B^bm

System 3:
Vocal: still and warm and peace - ful. Now the days are get - ting long, I can
Piano: Chords: G^b, C7(#9), F^m, B^bm7, E^bm7, A^b13

System 4:
Vocal: sing my sum - mer song. sing my sum - mer song.
Piano: Chords: G^b, A^b, B^bm, G^b, A^b, B^b