

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
 - **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.

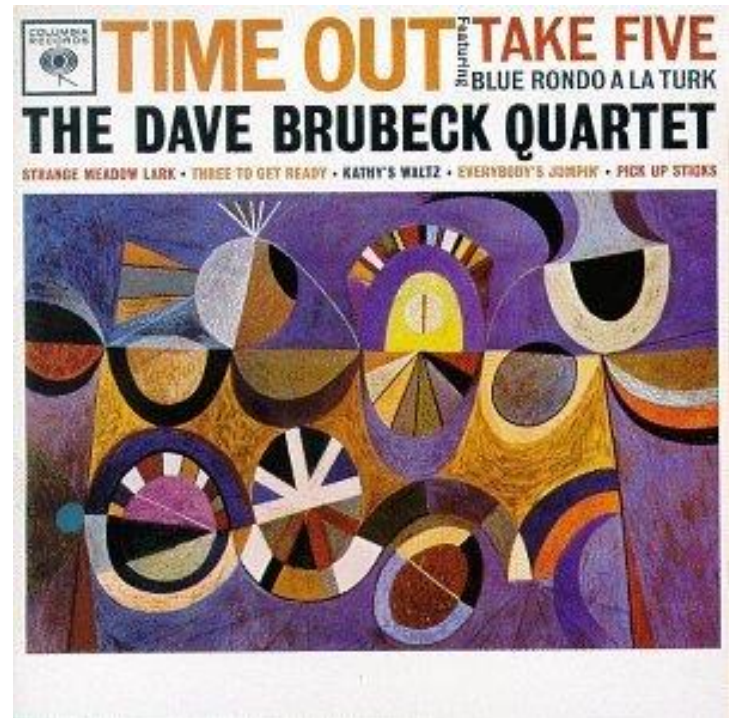


Biography

- 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.

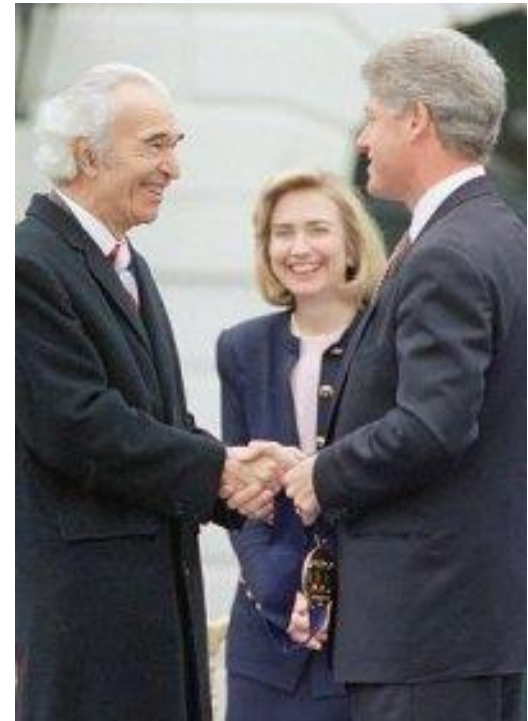


Biography

- 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.

[Audio file, Brubeck on piano](#)

[Audio file, Louis Armstrong](#)



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)

Chords: Fm(#7) Bbm7 Fm(#7) Bbm7 Fm(#7) Bbm7

Lyrics: *p* Love to me is

Chords: Eb7 Ab7 Db6 Gb Ab7 F7 Bbm

Lyrics: like a sum-mer day— Si-lent, 'cause there's just too much to say.

Chords: Gb C7(#9) Fm Bbm7 Ebm7 Ab13

Lyrics: Still and warm and peace-ful — E-ven clouds that may drift by can't dis-

Chords: Fm7 Bbm7 Ebm7 Ab7 Fm(#7) Bbm7 Eb7 Ab7 Db6

Lyrics: turb our sum-mer sky. I'll take sum-mer, that's my time of year.

Annotations: F:iii+7b9 vi7 II7 V7 I6 Bb:VI II7 V7 I Bb:VI II7+9 V I7 Eb:I7 IV6 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

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

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

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

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 (two flats), and the time signature is 4/4. The score is divided into four systems. The first system contains the first two lines of the song. The second system contains the next two lines. The third system contains the next two lines. The fourth system contains the final two lines. Above the vocal line, guitar chords are written in black ink. Below the piano accompaniment, Roman numerals are written in red ink. The lyrics are written below the vocal line.

Chords: D^b, E^bm⁶, B^bm, E^b, D^bma⁷, E^bm⁶, F^m(#⁷), B^bm⁷, E^b7, A^b7, D^b6, G^b, A^b7, F⁷, B^bm, G^b, C⁷(#⁹), F^m, B^bm⁷, E^bm⁷, A^b13, G^b, A^b, B^bm, G^b, A^b, B^b.

Roman Numerals: IV, v⁶, vi⁷, V, IVma⁷, v⁶.

Lyrics: Why must sum - mer ev - er end? Love to me is like a sum - mer day. If it ends, the mem - o - ries will stay still and warm and peace - ful. Now the days are get - ting long, I can sing my sum - mer song. sing my sum - mer song.