

Art Tatum - The Definitive Art Tatum (2002)

Written by bluesever

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01. *The Shout* (2:47) 02. *Sweet Emalina, My Gal* (3:00) 03. *Elegie* (3:17) 04. *Get Happy* (2:47) 05. *Aunt Hagar's Blues* (2:43) 06. *Nice Work If You Can Get It* (2:48) 07. *It's the Talk of the Town* (3:20) 08. *Makin' Whoopee* (2:45) 09. *Goin' Home* (3:10) 10. *Blue Skies* (2:52) 11. *Someone to Watch over Me* (3:16) 12. *Mine* (3:58) 13. *Yesterdays* (3:13) 14. *Jitterbug Waltz* (4:10) 15. *Mr. Freddie Blues* (3:12) 16. *Indiana* (3:28) Art Tatum (piano); Everett Barksdale (guitar); Slam Stewart (bass).

This sampler has 16 Art Tatum recordings reissued in chronological order that date from 1934-1950. All but the closing "Indiana" (which has guitarist Everett Barksdale and bassist Slam Stewart) are unaccompanied piano solos, and they are drawn from the Decca, Capitol, and Verve catalogs. Tatum was always a remarkable virtuoso so, even if this set is not completely definitive (it could not be without having Tatum's 1933 recording of "Tiger Rag"), there are many gems here. Tatum is typically miraculous on such songs as "The Shout," "Get Happy," "Blue Skies," and "Yesterdays." ---Scott Yanow, Rovi

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