

Lester Young - The Complete 1936-1951 Small Group Sessions Vol.6 - Rare Items (2005)



01 - *I've Found a new Baby* 02 - *Mortgage Stomp* 03 - *Don't Be That Way* 04 - *Blues With Helen* 05 - *Song of the Wanderer* 06 - *Allez Oop* 07 - *Ad-Lib Blues* 08 - *I Never Knew* 09 - *Charlie's Dream* 10 - *Lester's Dream* [play](#) 11 - *Wholly Cats* 12 - *Blitzkrieg Baby* 13 - *Beautiful Eyes* 14 - *There'll Be Some Changes Made* 15 - *It's Sad But True*

[play](#)

16 - *The Goon Drag* 17 - *Things 'Bout Coming My Way* 18 - *Lead me Daddy Straight to the Bar* 19 - *Just Jivin' Around* 20 - *Please Let me Forget* 21 - *(I Love Him Though) He Don't Love me Any More* 22 - *Pleasin' Man Blues (Stop Jivin' Around)* 23 - *See See Rider* 24 - *It's Better to Give Than to Receive*

Lester Young with: Teddy Wilson, Buck Clayton, Buster Bailey, Freddie Green, Walter Page, Jo Jones, Count Basie, Helen Humes, Benny Goodman, Charlie Christian, Shad Collins, Clyde Hart, John Collins, Nick Fenton, Harold West, Una Mae Carlisle, Bill Johnson, Don Stovall,

Sammy Price, Duke Jones, Yack Taylor, Snooky Young, Willie Smith, Maxwell Davis, Jimmy Bunn, Dave Barbour, Jimmy Rudd, Henry Tucker Green.

This additional volume brings together some atypical sessions within the Young discography. Atypical as much for the context in which they were recorded as for the jazz musicians who took part in them, in spite of the fact that the first three sessions have as common denominator the incomparable Count Basie rhythm section, including the Count himself in two of them. The title recorded by Teddy Wilson and his Orchestra corresponds to a session where Billie Holiday was the featured singer, but in this particular number she doesn't appear.

The session made under the name Members of Basie Band (with Helen Humes) is a test pressing that in its day was not released. In a typical jam session atmosphere one can hear Lester using his metallic clarinet for the first time and experimenting new sounds on his tenor sax. The five tracks by the Benny Goodman Octet were recorded at a rehearsal session, for at

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that time Goodman was thinking of forming a small group which could fully exploit the enormous musical talent of Charlie Christian.

Here the guitarist shows his indisputable brilliance as soloist in the same league as Lester, with whom he felt at ease, not just through the ties of friendship, but via a solid stylistic affinity: the same cool, unemphatic and laid-back approach. The last three sessions feature three singers, each of a very different stripe: the singer and pianist Una Mae Carlisle, a Fats Waller disciple; the pianist and singer Sammy Price; and Helen Humes. The latter was at a splendid moment in her career; Lester is limited to merely participate in the line-up except for a tenor solo of surprising power in "Pleasin' Man Blues"

This volume of rare items completes all of the Lester Young small group studio recordings made up until 1951. ---J. G. Calvados, Editorial Reviews

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