My Journey in Music

Albums that have influenced me, from childhood rock favourites to jazz, Latin music and South African township music. Use this list to explore a sound you know and discover one you have never heard before.

When I was a kid

Def Leppard
Hysteria — **1987**

U2
Rattle and Hum — **1988**

Aerosmith
Pump — **1989**

Bon Jovi
Slippery When Wet — **1986**

When I was a teenager

Red Hot Chili Peppers
Blood Sugar Sex Magik — **1991**

Led Zeppelin
Led Zeppelin — **1969**

The Doors
The Doors — **1967**

Rage Against the Machine
Rage Against the Machine — **1992**

Paul Weller
Stanley Road — **1995**

Stevie Wonder
Talking Book — **1972**

Ben Folds Five
All their albums — **Various**

Beastie Boys
Ill Communication — **1994**



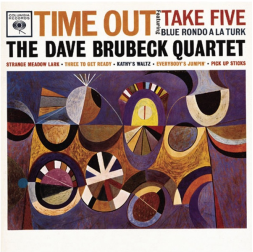
Def Leppard
Hysteria

Ben Folds Five starting points: Ben Folds Five (1995), Whatever and Ever Amen (1997) and The Unauthorized Biography of Reinhold Messner (1999).

When I first discovered jazz

Listen for how the musicians interact: a soloist takes the lead while the rest of the group supports, responds and shapes the music.

Dave Brubeck Quartet Time Out	**1959**
Oscar Peterson Trio Night Train	**1963**
Charlie Parker Yardbird Suite The Ultimate Collection	**1997**
Miles Davis Kind of Blue	**1959**
John Coltrane Blue Train	**1957**
McCoy Tyner The Real McCoy	**1967**
Herbie Hancock Head Hunters	**1973**
Herbie Hancock Maiden Voyage	**1965**
Ahmad Jamal Cross Country Tour 1958-1961	**1998**
Lee Morgan The Sidewinder	**1964**
Frank Sinatra with Count Basie Sinatra at the Sands	**1966**
Thad Jones and Mel Lewis Dedication	**Edition dependent**



Dave Brubeck Quartet
Time Out

Compilation dates are the year the collection was released. Parker's collection draws on recordings from 1945-1952; Jamal's draws on 1958-1961. The exact Dedication edition needs identifying before a reliable year can be added.

Latin and township music

When I got into Latin music

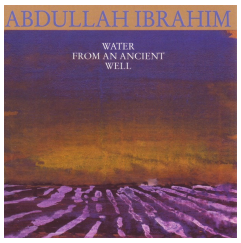
Fania All-Stars Best of	**Edition dependent**
Afro-Cuban All Stars A Toda Cuba Le Gusta	**1997**
Buena Vista Social Club Buena Vista Social Club	**1997**
Tito Puente Puente in Percussion	**1956**
Cachao Master Sessions Volume 1	**1994**
Maraca Descarga Total!	**2000**
Airto Moreira Essential The Very Best of Airto Moreira	**1999**

My time with South African township music

Abdullah Ibrahim Water from an Ancient Well	**1985**
Various artists The History of Township Music	**Edition dependent**
West Nkosi Rhythm of Healing	**1992 / 1993**
Hugh Masekela Live at the Market Theatre	**2007**
Mahotella Queens Best of	**Edition dependent**



Buena Vista Social Club
Buena Vista Social Club



Abdullah Ibrahim
Water from an Ancient Well

Try following one repeating rhythm, then listen for the other parts around it. West Nkosi's album is dated 1992 or 1993 in different release catalogues. "Best of" collections and The History of Township Music have edition-dependent dates.

Other albums that I love

Steely Dan Aja and other albums	**1977 / various**
Avishai Cohen Adama / Devotion	**1998 / 1999**
Esbjörn Svensson Trio Strange Place for Snow	**2002**
Tower of Power Back to Oakland / Tower of Power	**1974 / 1973**
Wynton Marsalis Standard Time Volume 1	**1987**
Diana Krall Live in Paris	**2002**
Brad Mehldau The Art of the Trio Volume Two	**1998**
Quarteto Novo Quarteto Novo	**1967**
Bill Withers The Best of	**Edition dependent**
Branford Marsalis I Heard You Twice the First Time	**1992**
Dee Dee Bridgewater Live at Yoshi's	**2000**
Fat Freddy's Drop Based on a True Story	**2005**
James Brown In the Jungle Groove	**1986**
The Meters The Very Best of the Meters	**1997**
Paul Simon Graceland	**1986**
Radiohead OK Computer	**1997**
Sting Ten Summoner's Tales	**1993**



Your listening journey

Choose one familiar album and one new discovery. Compare their rhythm, instruments and mood. Which musical idea would you like to try in your own playing?

My discovery and one thing I noticed

Years refer to album releases, rather than when I discovered the music. Selected sleeve artwork remains the property of its respective rights holders; images supplied by Apple's music catalogue.

Release notes Blue Note Avishai Cohen Hugh Masekela Artwork catalogue