



The New York Public Library
Music Division

Guide to the

Alvin Thaler Photographs of The Sound of Jazz

1957

JPB 19-03

Summary

Creator: Thaler, Alvin, 1926-2008

Title: Alvin Thaler Photographs of The Sound of Jazz

Date: 1957

Abstract: Alvin Thaler was a producer and director for CBS television and served as production manager for the series *The Seven Lively Arts*. The collection consists of photographs and contact sheets, and negatives shot by Thaler during the production of "The Sound of Jazz," a single episode of *The Seven Lively Arts* that aired on December 8, 1957.

Access: Some collections held by the Dance, Music, Recorded Sound, and Theatre Divisions at the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts are held off-site and must be requested in advance. Please check the collection records in **the NYPL's online catalog** for detailed location information. For general guidance about requesting offsite materials, please consult:
<https://www.nypl.org/about/locations/lpa/requesting-archival-materials>

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Language of the Material: English

Creator History

The Sound of Jazz was one episode of the CBS television series *The Seven Lively Arts* that was filmed and broadcast on December 8, 1957. The episode was directed by Jack Smight, produced by Robert Herridge, and with camera setup by Charles H. Schulz. Nat Hentoff and Whitney Balliett provided musical guidance for the episode, including the selection of musical guests. The episode featured 32 jazz artists in live performance, including luminaries such as Lester Young, Billie Holiday, Gerry Mulligan, Coleman Hawkins, Ben Webster, Count Basie, and Thelonious Monk.

Custodial History

The collection was donated by Alvin Thaler in 1994.

Key Terms

Subjects

Jazz musicians -- Photographs

Singers -- Photographs

Names

Basie, Count -- Photographs

Hawkins, Coleman -- Photographs

Holiday, Billie, 1915-1959

Monk, Thelonious -- Photographs

Mulligan, Gerry -- Photographs

Thaler, Alvin, 1926-2008

Webster, Ben, 1909-1973 -- Photographs

Young, Lester, 1909-1959 -- Photographs

CBS Television Network

Container List

- b. 1 f. 1 Contact sheets
- b. 1 f. 2 Basie, Count
- b. 1 f. 3 Herridge, Robert
- b. 1 f. 4 Herridge, Robert, Jack Smight, and Chas Schultz
- b. 1 f. 5 Holiday, Billie
- b. 1 f. 6 Holiday, Billie and Count Basie
- b. 1 f. 7 Holiday, Billie, Lester Young, Gerry Mulligan, Ben Webster, and others
- b. 1 f. 8 Houseman, John
- b. 1 f. 9 Monk, Thelonious
- b. 1 f. 10 Monk, Thelonious, Ahmed Aboul-Malik, and Osie Johnson
- b. 1 f. 11 Pierce, Nat, Henry Red Allen, Jo Jones, Rex Stewart, Coleman Hawkins, Pee Wee Russell, and others
- b. 1 f. 12 Russell, Pee Wee
- b. 1 f. 13 Russell, Pee Wee, Red Allen, and Coleman Hawkins
- b. 1 f. 14 Russell, Pee Wee, Red Allen, and Nat Pierce
- b. 1 f. 15 Webster, Ben, Coleman Hawkins, and Gerry Mulligan
- b. 1 f. 16 Young, Lester, Ben Webster, and Gerry Mulligan