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Music

2009 Voice Jazz Critics' Poll: The Results

Album of the year, reissue of the year, best debut, and more
 Tuesday, December 29th 2009 at 1:03pm

Jazz Album of the Year

1. **Vijay Iyer Trio**, *Historicity* (ACT) **234 (33)**

2. **Henry Threadgill Zooid**, *This Brings Us To, Volume 1* (Pi) **198.5 (30)**

3. **Joe Lovano Us Five**, *Folk Art* (Blue Note) **150 (23)**

4. **Darcy James Argue's Secret Society**, *Infernal Machines* (New Amsterdam) **134 (22)**

5. **Steve Lehman Octet**, *Travail, Transformation, and Flow* (Pi) **112 (17)**

6. **Keith Jarrett**, *Testament: Paris/London* (ECM) **99.5 (14)**
 7. **Allen Toussaint**, *The Bright Mississippi* (Nonesuch) **95.5 (15)**

8. **Miguel Zenón**, *Esta Plena* (Marsalis Music) **75.5 (12)**
 9. **Jim Hall & Bill Frisell**, *Hemispheres* (ArtistShare) **73 (12)**

10. **John Hollenbeck Large Ensemble**, *Eternal Interlude* (Sunnyside) **71.5 (10)**

11. **Bill Frisell**, *Disfarmer* (Nonesuch) **63.5 (10)**

12. **Bill Dixon**, *Tapestries for Small Orchestra* (Firehouse 12) **59.5 (9)**

13. **Wadada Leo Smith**, *Spiritual Dimensions* (Cuneiform) **59 (10)**

14. **Dave Douglas & Brass Ecstasy**, *Spirit Moves* (Greenleaf) **56 (9)**

15. **Jeff "Tain" Watts**, *Watts* (Dark Key) **55 (11)**

16. **Charles Tolliver Big Band**, *Emperor March* (Half Note) **55 (7)**



Miguel Zenón: Top of the class in Latin

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- 17. **Darius Jones Trio**, *Man'ish Boy (A Raw & Beautiful Thing)* (AUM Fidelity) **51.5 (9)**
- 18. **David Binney**, *Third Occasion* (Mythology) **50 (11)**
- 19. **Fly (Mark Turner–Larry Grenadier–Jeff Ballard)**, *Sky & Country* (ECM) **48.5 (10)**
- 20. **J.D. Allen Trio**, *Shine!* (Sunnyside) **45 (8)**
- 21. **Linda Oh Trio**, *Entry* (Linda Oh Music) **44.5 (7)**
- 22. **Branford Marsalis Quartet**, *Metamorphosen* (Marsalis Music) **42.5 (7)**
- 23. **Kurt Elling**, *Dedicated to You: Sings the Music of Coltrane and Hartman* (Concord) **42.5 (6)**
- 24. **Steve Kuhn Trio With Joe Lovano**, *Mostly Coltrane* (ECM) **41 (9)**
- 25. **Robert Glasper**, *Double Booked* (Blue Note) **40.5 (8)**
- 26. **Monterey Quartet (Dave Holland–Gonzalo Rubalcaba–Chris Potter–Eric Harland)**, *Live at the 2007 Monterey Jazz Festival* (MJF/Concord) **38 (7)**
- 27. **Von Freeman**, *Vonski Speaks* (Nessa) **36 (4)**
- 28. **Gretchen Parlato**, *In a Dream* (ObliqSound) **35 (6)**
- 29. **Martial Solal**, *Live at the Village Vanguard* (Cam Jazz) **34 (6)**
- 30. **Chris Potter's Underground**, *Ultrahang* (ArtistShare) **33.5 (7)**
- 31. **Ben Allison**, *Think Free* (Palmetto) **33 (6)**
- 32. **Miroslav Vitous Group with Michel Portal**, *Remembering Weather Report* (ECM) **32.5 (5)**
- 33. **Tom Harrell**, *Prana Dance* (HighNote) **32 (5)**
- 34. **John Patitucci Trio**, *Remembrance* (Concord) **30 (7)**
- 35. **David S. Ware**, *Shakti* (AUM Fidelity) **28 (6)**
- 36. **Evan Parker Electro-Acoustic Ensemble**, *The Moment's Energy* (ECM) **28 (4)**
- 37. **Tyshawn Sorey**, *Koan* (482 Music) **27.5 (5)**
- 38. **Gary Burton–Pat Metheny–Steve Swallow–Antonio Sanchez**, *Quartet Live!* (Concord) **27 (5)**
- 39. **Roswell Rudd**, *Trombone Tribe* (Sunnyside) **26.5 (5)**
- 40. **James Moody**, *4A* (IPO) **26 (4)**
- 40. **Joshua Redman**, *Compass* (Nonesuch) **26 (4)**
- 42. **Christian McBride & Inside Straight**, *Kind of Brown* (Mack Avenue) **25 (4)**
- 43. **Fred Anderson**, *21st Century Chase* (Delmark) **24.5 (3)**
- 44. **Mulatu Astatke & the Heliocentrics**, *Inspiration Information, Vol. 3* (Strut) **24 (4)**
- 45. **Ravi Coltrane**, *Blending Times* (Savoy Jazz) **23 (4)**
- 46. **Roy Hargrove Big Band**, *Emergence* (Emarcy) **23 (3)**
- 47. **Melody Gardot**, *My One and Only Thrill* (Verve) **22.5 (4)**
- 48. **Keith Jarrett–Gary Peacock–Jack DeJohnette**, *Yesterdays* (ECM) **22 (5)**
- 49. **James Carter–John Medeski–Christian McBride–Adam Rogers–Joey Baron**, *Heaven on Earth* (Half Note) **22 (3)**
- 50. **Nicole Mitchell's Black Earth Strings**, *Renegades* (Delmark) **21.5 (4)**

Critics were asked to list 10 albums in descending order, with 10 points awarded for their #1, 9 for #2, etc. (On ballots where choices were listed alphabetically, each received 5.5 points.) The first bold number indicates total points; the number in parentheses is the tally of ballots on which a CD appeared, which was used as a tiebreaker.

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Jazz Reissue of the Year

1. **Louis Armstrong**, *The Complete Decca Recordings, 1935–1946* (Mosaic) **46 (17)**
2. **Ella Fitzgerald**, *Twelve Nights in Hollywood* (Hip-O Select/Verve) **42 (16)***
3. **Freddie Hubbard**, *Without a Song: Live in Europe 1969* (Blue Note) **20 (11)**
4. **John Coltrane**, *Side Steps* (Prestige) **20 (10)**
5. **Denny Zeitlin**, *The Columbia Studio Trio Sessions* (Mosaic Select) **18 (7)**
6. **Billie Holiday**, *The Complete Commodore & Decca Masters* (Hip-O Select/Verve) **15 (7)**
7. **Charles Mingus**, *Mingus Ah Um: 50th Anniversary Legacy Edition* (Sony Legacy) **14 (8)**
8. **Charles Tyler**, *Saga of the Outlaws* (Nessa) **14 (7)**
9. **Miles Davis**, *The Complete Columbia Album Collection* (Sony Legacy) **14 (6)**
10. **Tony Bennett & Bill Evans**, *The Complete Recordings* (Fantasy) **12 (6)**
10. **Codona**, *The Codona Trilogy* (ECM) **12 (6)**

*Totals for *Twelve Nights in Hollywood* include 9 points transferred from three ballots that listed it as a new release.

Critics were asked to list three reissues in descending order, with 3 points awarded for #1, 2 for #2, and 1 for #3. The first bold number indicates total points; the number in parentheses tallies ballots on which a CD appeared, which was used as a tiebreaker.

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Best Vocal Album

1. **Gretchen Parlato**, *In a Dream* (ObliqSound) **11**
2. **Kurt Elling**, *Dedicated to You: Sings the Music of Coltrane and Hartman* (Concord) **9**
3. **Nellie McKay**, *Normal as Blueberry Pie: A Tribute to Doris Day* (Verve) **6**
4. **Fay Victor Ensemble**, *The FreeSong Suite* (Greene Avenue Music) **5**
5. **Melody Gardot**, *My One and Only Thrill* (Verve) **4**

Best Debut

1. **Darcy James Argue's Secret Society**, *Infernal Machines* (New Amsterdam) **22**
2. **Darius Jones Trio**, *Man'ish Boy (A Raw & Beautiful Thing)* (AUM Fidelity) **9**
3. **Linda Oh Trio**, *Entry* (Linda Oh Music) **7**
4. **Gerald Clayton**, *Two-Shade* (ArtistShare) **6**

Best Latin

1. **Miguel Zenón**, *Esta Plena* (Marsalis Music) **23**
2. **Dafnis Prieto Si O Si Quartet**, *Live at Jazz Standard NYC* (Dafnison) **5**
3. **Bobby Sanabria**, *Kenya Revisited Live!!!* (Jazzheads) **5**
4. **Mark Levine & the Latin Tinge**, *Off & On: The Music of Moacir Santos* (Left Coast Clave) **4**
5. **Arturo O'Farrill**, *Risa Negra* (Zoho) **4**

For Best Vocal, Debut, and Latin albums, critics were asked to name one album apiece, with no point system.

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