

Count Basie & Dizzy Gillespie – The Gifted Ones (1977)

Written by bluesever

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1. *Back to the Land* 2. *Constantinople* 3. *You Got It* 4. *St. James Infirmary* 5. *Follow the Leader* 6. *Ow!* Personnel: Count Basie - piano Dizzy Gillespie - trumpet Joe Pass - guitar Ray Brown - double bass Mickey Roker – drums

I stumbled across this disk through recommendations. When, I saw it had Dizzy and Baise together on the same CD. I thought dang it must be good! I've never even heard of a collaboration between the two until now. On the CD Ray Brown keeps the rhythm simple and upbeat with his amazing talent on that instrument. Mickey Roker is on drums, to me on the album it seems he is holding back something. The drumming is good but its like he's scared because he's in the same room with the two of the greats. That's just me, tho. If you want some good drummers check out Krupa, Tony Williams, or Philly Joe Jones. They will knock you out. Three of the songs on the CD, Back to the land, You got it, and Follow the leader, are all written by diz and baise. They are great kicking tracks that will make you feel good and get up out of your chair and start dancing. They also have an interesting intrepration of "St. James Infirmary." Diz's playing on the cd seems as good as ever and Baise just kicks back, and lets his fingers on the piano do the talking. It would have been alot better album if they had someone like philly joe jones on the drums. Other than that, the playing is great and goes right into my Jazz collection of greats. So check it out already! --- "lildjbrain", amazon.com

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