Written by bluesever Saturday, 21 July 2018 13:30 -

Lester Young - Countless Blues (1936)



1 Shoe Shine Boy (Sammy Cahn / Saul Chaplin) 2:59 2 Evenin' (Mitchell Parish / Harry White) 2:56 3 Boogie Woogie (I May Be Wrong) (Dick Gimble / Pinetop Smith) 3:15 4 Oh, Lady Be Good (George Gershwin / Ira Gershwin) 3:08 5 This Year's Kisses (Irving Berlin) 3:07 6 I Must Have That Man! (Dorothy Fields / Jimmy McHugh) 2:56 7 I'll Get By (As Long as I Have You) (Fred E. Ahlert / Roy Turk) 3:09 8 Mean to Me (Fred E. Ahlert / Roy Turk) 3:07 9 I'll Never Be the Same (Gus Kahn / Matty Malneck / Frank Signorelli) 3:03 Living (Ralph Rainger / Leo Robin) 3:04 11 Foolin' Myself (Jack Lawrence / Peter Tinturin) 3:00 12 Without Your Love (John Lange / Fred Stryker) 2:52 13 Me, Myself and I (Irving Gordon / Alvin Kaufman / Allan Roberts) 2:37 14 A Sailboat in the Moonlight (John Jacob Loeb / Carmen Lombardo) 2:53 15 Trav'lin' All Alone (J.C. Johnson) 2:15 16 She's Funny That Way (Neil Moret / Richard A. Whiting) 2:39 17 Getting Some Fun Out of Life (Joe Burke / Edgar Leslie) 3:03 18 Way Down Yonder in New Orleans (Henry Creamer / Turner Layton) 2:57 19 Countess Blues (Milt Gabler) 2:58 Lester Young Primary Artist, Sax (Tenor) Buster Bailey Clarinet Count Basie Piano Artie Bernstein Bass Buck Clayton Trumpet Cozy Cole Drums Eddie Durham Guitar (Electric) Benny Goodman Clarinet Freddie Green Guitar Edmond Hall Clarinet Johnny Hodges Sax (Alto) Jo Jones Drums Walter Page Bass Allan Reuss Guitar Jimmy Rushing Vocals Carl "Tatti" Smith Trumpet Claude Thornhill Piano Teddy Wilson Piano

Although he spent his earliest days near New Orleans, Lester Young lived in Minneapolis by 1920, playing in a legendary family band. He studied violin, trumpet, and drums, starting on alto at age 13. Because he refused to tour in the South, Young left home in 1927 and instead toured with Art Bronson's Bostonians, switching to tenor. He was back with the family band in 1929 and then freelanced for a few years, playing with Walter Page's Blue Devils (1930), Eddie Barefield in 1931, back with the Blue Devils during 1932-1933, and Bennie Moten and King Oliver (both 1933). He was with Count Basie for the first time in 1934 but left to replace Coleman Hawkins with Fletcher Henderson. Unfortunately, it was expected that Young would try to emulate Hawk, and his laid-back sound angered Henderson's sidemen, resulting in Pres not lasting long. After a tour with Andy Kirk and a few brief jobs, Lester Young was back with Basie in 1936, just in time to star with the band as they headed East. Young made history

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during his years with Basie, not only participating on Count's record dates but starring with Billie Holiday and Teddy Wilson on a series of classic small-group sessions. In addition, on his rare recordings on clarinet with Basie and the Kansas City Six. ---Scott Yanow, allmusic.com

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