

PLAYLIST LINKS FROM CLASS ONE

Mississippi Goddam Nina Simone

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ghhaREDM3X8&list=RDghhaREDM3X8&start_radio=1

(Highly Recommend and similar in style)

Nina Simone: I Wish I Knew How It Would Feel To be Free (composed by pianist Billy Taylor)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vq3sdF0YXkM&list=RDvq3sdF0YXkM&start_radio=1

Black and Blue Louis Armstrong

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-vDm1lomVHU&feature=youtu.be>

Symphony in Black Duke Ellington Orchestra

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LPD-8-l68L4>

I've Got a Heart Full of Music, Benny Goodman quartet

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DBxnaRQODPU>

Strange Fruit Billie Holiday original recording, 1939 with disturbing images

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wHGAMjwr_j8

Ornithology Supersax plays Charlie Parker ("Bird") tunes and improvisations, note for note, arranged for a big band with four saxophones who harmonize the melodic lines. Stunning.

Freedom Suite Sonny Rollins (with Oscar Pettiford, bass; Max Roach, drums)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9GldoGTxN6Y>

Some years after this, drummer Max Roach recorded his own composition, called "We Insist! Freedom Now Suite" along with his wife, singer and political activist, Abbey Lincoln. This music is very dramatic and at times not an easy-listen, as Abbey Lincoln is literally screaming along with the music.

Archie Shepp was mentioned by someone in the class as another jazz player who wrote music with explicit political titles and objectives. Many include lyrics. His most famous political pieces are Attica Blues (1972) and the Cry of My People. He has explored styles ranging from Coltrane's modal music of the 1970s to fusion (jazz influenced by R & B) and the avant-garde. There are many recordings to choose from but I am not acquainted sufficiently with these recordings to recommend one. Feel free to try several.

Fine and Mellow Billie Holiday (jam session from 1956)

A televised unrehearsed jam session with Holiday leading some of the best soloists of the 1940s and 1950s.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TaPIyo51cr4&list=RDTaPIyo51cr4&start_radio=1&t=67

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>>>>Added on Feb. 4 - Thanks to many people who contributed these notices:<<<<

BILLIE HOLIDAY

New dramatic feature film: The United States vs. Billie Holiday, Release Date . Feb. 26, 2021.. I believe it is on Hulu, but there may be other platforms in the future.

Kanye West / Billie Holiday

A very creative re-working of “Strange Fruit” by Kanye West. Called “Blood on the Leaves” he created it by sampling the voices of Billie Holiday and Nina Simone. Then he sings, or raps, over it. This piece is very explicitly in the protest category and very artful, in my opinion.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G7XoqJnNQ08&list=RDG7XoqJnNQ08&start_radio=1

GIL SCOTT-HERON

The Revolution Will Not be Televised (1971). Perhaps the beginnings of hip-hop and rap style, this protest poet and singer use Hubert Laws on flute and Ron Carter, bass, two premier jazz players.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UGqxU6PTRZk&list=RDghhaREDM3X8&index=3>

JAZZ PLAYERS ON ROCK ALBUMS

Bradford Marsalis Many appearances with the Grateful Dead.

<https://www.branfordmarsalis.com/press/branford-marsalis%E2%80%99-history-grateful-dead-ahead-his-collaboration-dead-co-lockn%E2%80%99>

PBS 2-hour documentary African American women who were singers, actors, and activists

A documentary that tells the inspiring story of how six iconic African American women entertainers – Lena Horne, Abbey Lincoln, Nina Simone, Diahann Carroll, Cicely Tyson and Pam Grier – challenged an entertainment industry deeply complicit in perpetuating racist stereotypes, and transformed themselves and their audiences in the process.

<https://www.pbs.org/video/american-masters-how-it-feels-to-be-free-zzfh8i/>