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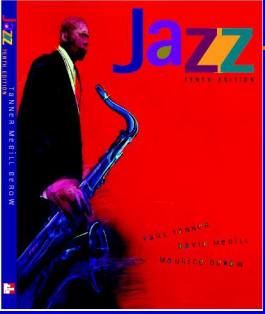
# Jazz

## Tenth Edition

### Chapter 10

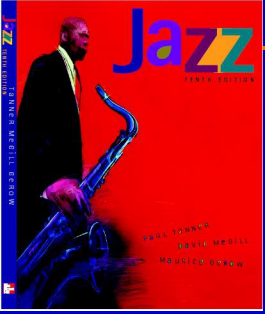
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PowerPoint  
by  
Sharon Ann Toman, 2004



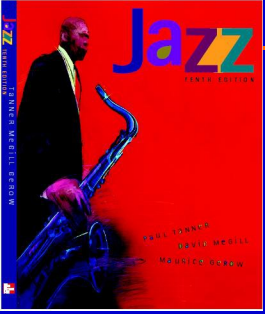
# Miles Davis (1926-1991)

- Leading personality among the giants of jazz
- Trumpet player
- Born into a a relatively affluent family in Alton, Illinois
- Attended *Julliard Conservatory* for a short time (1945)



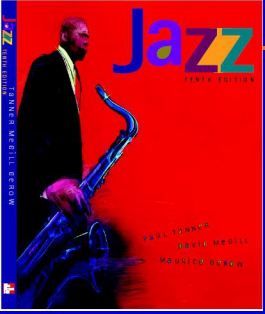
# Miles Davis (1926-1991)

- Played with Earl Hine's band, Claude Thornhill's band, and Charlie Parker
- It seems that no matter what Davis played on his horn...it had a rather sad feeling to it
- Played more scale-oriented improvisations rather than chord-oriented improvisations
- Important association with Gil Evans on recordings



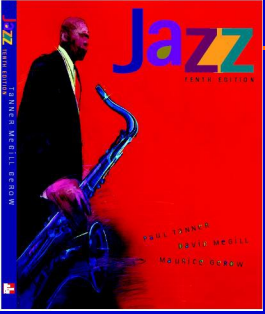
# Miles Davis/Cool

- He was not destined to be known only for his contribution to the development of cool jazz
- But rather he was an innovative force in the evolution of jazz
- Always searching for new, fresh, exciting ways to play his music



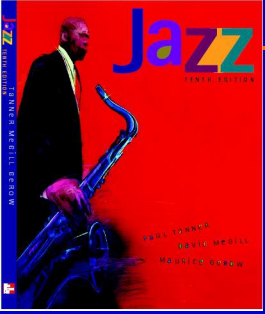
# Miles Davis/Cool

- Used an amplification of his trumpet in “*Summertime*” from *Porgy and Bess*
- Of all the stylistic periods contributed to or initiated by Davis, it was the cool period which he is most connected



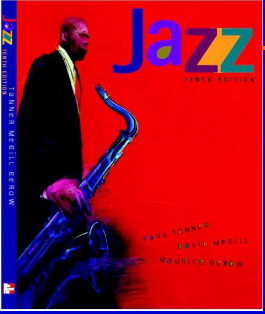
# Miles Davis/Small Groups

- Within the small group format his explorations led him to another stylistic breakthrough “fusion”
- Around the 1950’s, Davis’ music centered around a quintet for about 2 years
- Then this quintet lead to his sextet



# Miles Davis/Small Groups

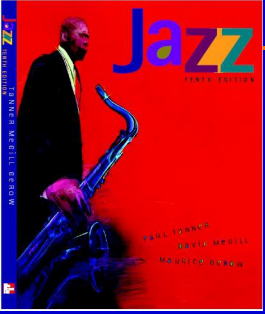
- He had started to develop the playing style that characterizes much of his later work during the 1950's
- His playing style used a softer tone of the cool era
- Slowed down melodic activity
- Phrasing became fragmented which left open spaces for the rhythm section



# Miles Davis/Modal

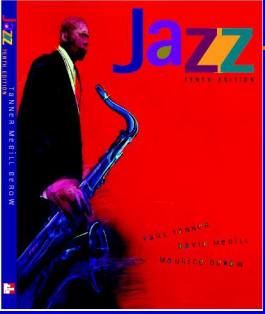
- By 1958...his playing style used modal scales and slower moving harmonies
- He suspended his melodies above the harmony...the result was the lack of harmonic movement which seemed to disassociate the melody





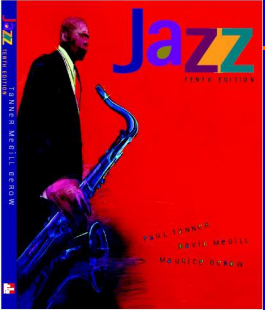
# Miles Davis/Modal

- Davis successfully carried music through the transition from bop to cool and again on to a modal jazz
- The next recording would launch players like John Coltrane



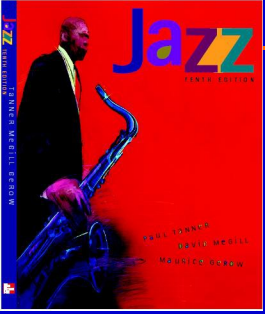
# Miles Davis/Jazz/Rock Fusion

- As rock began to dominate the pop music culture... Davis faced the dilemma confronted by most leaders in jazz
- Imported the energy of rock into jazz
- “In a Silent Way” released in 1969 was the 1<sup>st</sup> truly addressed the rock issue
- That is.....maintaining leadership as styles changed



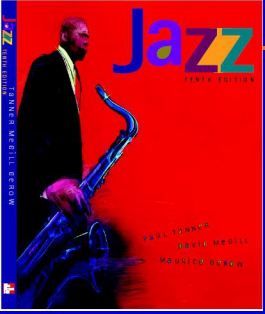
# Miles Davis/Jazz Pop

- This musical mix is more commercial and some of the musical material is even drawn from the popular music scene like a song by Cyndi Lauper
- Despite the new format, Davis' style is still recognizable through his melodic style (plaintive, fragmented, and somewhat isolated)



# Miles Davis/Legacy

- His ability to sense new directions in music
- A maverick among jazz musicians
- Emotional content of his music



# Miles Davis/Legacy

- He entered the jazz world in the bop period as a performer but...left it as a leader who found his own signature of jazz
- His later style imported the energy of rock music into jazz
- Known as a “stylistic explorer” in the jazz world