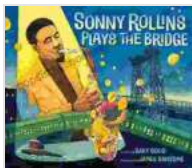


Sonny Rollins Plays The Bridge: A Timeless Masterpiece of Jazz



Sonny Rollins Plays the Bridge by Gary Golio

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 15205 KB

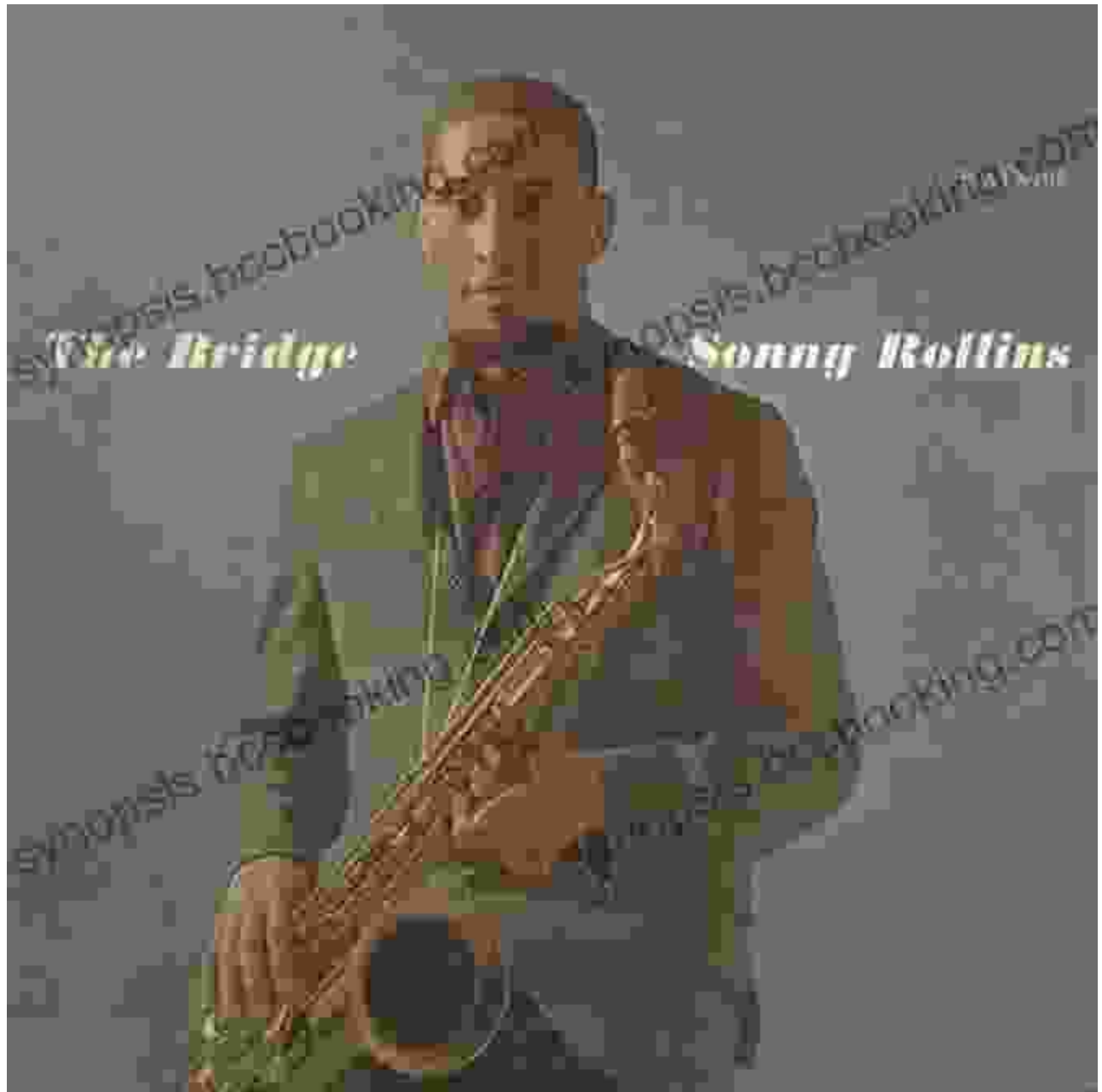
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Sonny Rollins Plays The Bridge

Artist: Sonny Rollins

Label: Riverside Records

Release Date: December 1962

Format: Vinyl, CD, Digital

The Bridge: A Symbol of Rollins' Artistic Journey

Sonny Rollins' album *The Bridge* is more than just a collection of jazz songs. It is a musical journey that reflects Rollins' own personal evolution as an artist. The title track, "The Bridge," is a metaphor for the journey itself, as Rollins seamlessly traverses the gap between hard bop and the more experimental, modal jazz that would come to define his later work.

The album was recorded in 1962, at a time when Rollins was at the height of his powers. He had already established himself as one of the most innovative and influential saxophonists in jazz, but he was also eager to push the boundaries of the genre. On *The Bridge*, Rollins experiments with different tempos, rhythms, and harmonies, creating a sound that is both fresh and timeless.

The Musicians: A Stellar Lineup

Rollins was joined on *The Bridge* by a stellar lineup of musicians, including pianist Tommy Flanagan, bassist Bob Cranshaw, and drummer Roy Haynes. These musicians were all masters of their craft, and they helped Rollins to create a truly special album.

Flanagan's piano playing is both lyrical and supportive, providing the perfect foundation for Rollins' solos. Cranshaw's bass playing is solid and swinging, and he helps to create a strong rhythmic foundation. Haynes' drumming is inventive and tasteful, and he provides the perfect backdrop for Rollins' improvisations.

The Music: A Masterclass in Jazz

The music on *The Bridge* is simply stunning. Rollins' saxophone playing is at its peak, and he displays his mastery of both improvisation and composition. The album features a mix of originals and standards, and Rollins breathes new life into every track.

The opening track, "The Bridge," is a slow, bluesy number that sets the tone for the album. Rollins' saxophone soars over the top of the rhythm section, and he creates a truly memorable melody. The title track is followed by a more upbeat number, "St. Thomas," which is based on a traditional Caribbean folk song. Rollins' improvisation on this track is simply breathtaking, and he displays his ability to create complex and beautiful melodies on the spot.

The album also features a number of other highlights, including "Airegin," "John St.," and "Oleo." Each track is a gem, and the album as a whole is a masterpiece of jazz.

The Legacy: A Timeless Masterpiece

Sonny Rollins Plays The Bridge has been hailed as one of the greatest jazz albums of all time. It has been praised for its originality, its musicianship, and its timeless appeal. The album has influenced generations of jazz musicians, and it continues to be a source of inspiration today.

If you are a fan of jazz, then you need to own a copy of *Sonny Rollins Plays The Bridge*. It is a truly essential album that belongs in every jazz collection.

Tracklist

1. The Bridge

2. St. Thomas
3. Airegin
4. John St.
5. Oleo
6. Blues Note
7. Phase III



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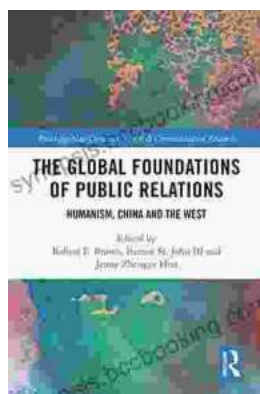
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