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From the editor

A programme on BBC Radio 4 on 13 May (still on iPlayer as of now) might have something to say to jazz listeners. It was *Less Is Less: Why Scandinavian Design Leaves Me Cold*, a thorough and acerbic dissection by Laurence Llewellyn Bowen of what's wrong with the "less is more" philosophy that underpins Scandinavian design. Of course, the same principle has had some primacy in jazz since Kind Of Blue and been influential on a generation of musicians, especially in Europe, that issues music onto the jazz scene. But Bowen asks if we've reached "peak Scandi". A London auctioneer says there has been a slowdown in sales of Scandinavian furniture in favour of 18th and 19th century styles. Nordic crime dramas have largely disappeared from TV and Faroese jumpers have probably had their day in *Woman's Hour* fashion discussions. Bowen's argument is that "blonde and bland" Scandinavian design has dislodged pattern and elaborate decoration. If there is a parallel in music, may we see the return of more notes to the brown, ornately carved radiogram playing in the corner?

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Steve Voce dismisses the 'non-starter' idea of 10 essential jazz albums, preferring an unending list of records that he wouldn't want to be without

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The great swing tenors were the saxophonist's first inspirations but as Gordon Jack hears, he's had ears for Coltrane and Brecker and played with Ornette Coleman

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Simon Adams digs deep into the music of the mesmeric pianist Andrew Hill

Real gone! 14

Simon Spillett laments the death of the jazz album as an educational package

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The prolific percussionist – Shearing, Benson, Miles, Hancock, jingles, films – keeps a crisp groove but as Mark Youll points out, he's also an on-the-spot orchestrator

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Changing The Tune: The Kansas City Women's Jazz Festival, 1978-1985 // The Saxophone: The Art And Science Of Playing And Performing // Looking For Frankie: Bio-Discography Of Frankie Newton // Thelonious Monk Abécédaire

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Brian Morton says we should make way for another outstanding singer in Ella Fitzgerald's centenary year

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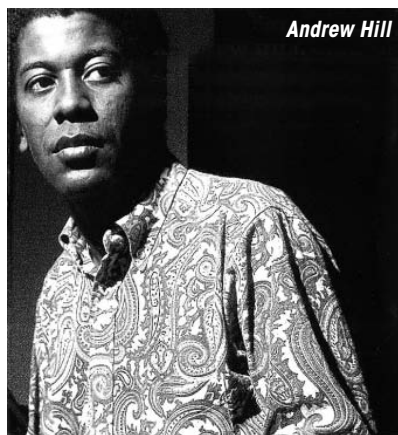
Alan Luff doesn't hum along with the newly premiered Charlie Parker opera but does sing the praises of a saxophonist Bird influenced

Harry Allen



Stunt Records

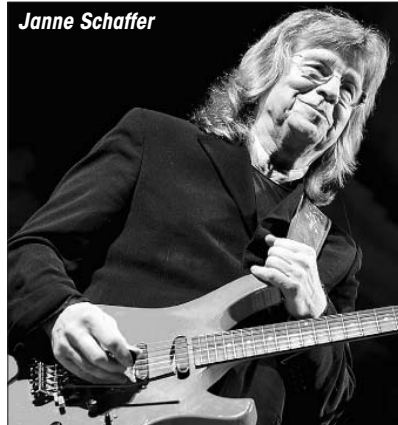
Andrew Hill



Maxine Sullivan



Janne Schaffer



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