Subject: Re: Jazz Lovers
Posted by lon on Sun, 15 Jan 2006 03:20:22 GMT
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This sets in motion a lot more discussion. I wish I knew more about Roy Hargrove.For sax players I take the time to listen to Dexter Gordonmore than Sonny Rollins. Don Sirley comes to mind as a moody rather than up tempo pianist.But as a soloist, I'm hard pressed to think of anyone better than Martin Taylor's guitar. Maybe it's because I usethose mp3's to test my speaker builds. I'm most familiarwith Taylor's "Artistry" album.Aside from 'sweet bands', I have just about everything the English bandleader John Dankworth ever did. His "Zodiac Variations"and "What The Dickens"-- themes on the works of Charles Dickenswould qualify as mood pieces. Claire Fisher and Lenny Niehouse arewell known for extended works as well.Zodiac Variations is an example of 'classical big band music'in that Dankworth gives notes on the compositional techniqueused for each sign. Dankworth is less well-known than his wife Cleo Laine. Together they did a recording called"Shakespeare And All That Jazz: lyrics from Shakespeare playswith melodies by Ellington from his Shakespeare work andDankworth originals.There are a jillion things to remember for someone who haslistened this music a whole life. But I always return tothese.Most of this is from the early 60's.Recently I've been catching up on dvd those episodes ofthe Star Trek spinoff Deep Space Nine which I had not seen.I was amazed and delighted to find they had incorprated a character called Vic Fontaine played and sung by James Darren (yes, the onefrom the Gidget movies.) The character is a holographic fantasyreplete with tuxedo, slot machines and the whole look of 1962 Vegas. This is a way to communicate those pop tunesto several new generations.That said, the best thing in the current market has been the rip it up style of The Brian Setzer Orchestra.