

Piano Starts Here: The Young Art Tatum

Early Life and Influences

Art Tatum was born in Toledo, Ohio, on October 13, 1910. He was the youngest of four children. His father, Arthur Tatum Sr., was a barber, and his mother, Mildred Moore Tatum, was a homemaker. Tatum showed an interest in music at a young age, and he began playing piano at the age of three. He was largely self-taught, although he did receive some formal instruction from local musicians.



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by Robert Andrew Parker

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

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Tatum's early influences included Fats Waller, James P. Johnson, and Earl Hines. He was also influenced by classical music, particularly the works of Bach, Beethoven, and Chopin. Tatum's unique style of playing was a combination of all of these influences. He was known for his incredible technique, his ability to improvise, and his use of complex harmonies.

Career

Tatum began playing in local clubs in Toledo in his teens. In 1932, he moved to New York City, where he quickly became a major figure in the jazz scene. He played with some of the biggest names in jazz, including Louis Armstrong, Duke Ellington, and Benny Goodman. Tatum also made a number of recordings, which are considered some of the greatest jazz recordings ever made.

Tatum's career was cut short by his untimely death in 1956 at the age of 47. He died from uremia, a complication of diabetes. Despite his short career, Tatum is considered one of the most influential jazz pianists of all time. His music continues to be enjoyed by people around the world.

Legacy

Art Tatum's legacy is immense. He is considered one of the greatest jazz pianists of all time, and his music continues to be enjoyed by people around the world. Tatum's influence can be heard in the playing of many of the greatest jazz pianists who came after him, including Oscar Peterson, Bill Evans, and Herbie Hancock.

Tatum's music is a testament to his incredible talent and his love of music. He was a true innovator, and his music continues to inspire and amaze people today.

Art Tatum was a jazz pianist who was born in Toledo, Ohio, in 1910. He started playing piano at a young age, and by the time he was in his teens, he was playing in local clubs. In 1932, Tatum moved to New York City, where he quickly became a major figure in the jazz scene. He played with some of the biggest names in jazz, including Louis Armstrong, Duke Ellington, and Benny Goodman. Tatum also made a number of recordings,

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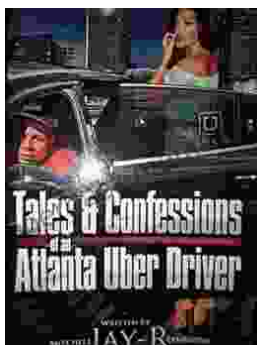
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