



BACK IN THE DAY

Courtney Pine (2000)



POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Jazz, hip-hop and reggae influence
- Jazz fusion
- Experience as multi-instrumentalist and DJ
- Covers and references to pre existing songs.

'LADY DAY AND (JOHN COLTRANE), 'INNER STATE (OF MIND)' AND 'LOVE AND AFFECTION'

STRUCTURE:

- Lady Day: 12 bar blues, verses and refrain
- Inner State: rap sections, vocal refrains, links,
- Love and Affection: No instrumental intro, verse, choruses, interlude, middle 8

MELODY:

- Lady Day: Riffs, Samples, Vocal melody: extended from original melody with improvisations, melismas and vocalisations. Alto sax: Virtuosoic, chromaticism, largely conjunct, high notes, pitch bends
- Inner State: Uses a sample, quotes 'Summertime', improvised sax, 'So What' riff, rap sections with vocalised interjections,
- Love and Affection: Cover of Joan Armatrading's song from the 1976, uses blue notes in vocal melody

CONTEXT:

- British jazz musician with commercial success due to variety of modern popular styles in fusion with American modern jazz elements.
- Jazz influences include: Miles Davis, John Coltrane and Sonny Rollins.
- Multi instrumentalist with background as DJ. Produced and mixed album himself.
- Reggae and hip-hop influence from Jamaican born parents.
- Pine's intention was 'to produce a sound that is old and new at the same time. The paradox is stimulating to me.'

RHYTHM, METRE AND TEMPO:

- Lady Day: Syncopation, hybrid of hip hop, jazz and drum & bass in rhythms
- Inner State: Cross rhythms and syncopation. Almost constant groove
- Love and Affection: Beginning in free time, syncopated stop time,

HARMONY AND TONALITY:

- Lady Day: based on 12 bar blues in C, extended chords, 7th and #9th chords, 13th chords, harmonic alterations, chromatic shifts, augmented dominant chord.
- Inner State: Mainly the same 2 chords all the way through: Cm7 and Dm7 (or F) Bass provides harmony. Guitar plays extended chords.
- Love and Affection: Harmonic riff (E - B - A)

SONORITY:

- Lady Day: Music technology plays big part: samples, panning, EQ effect, reverb, Programmed and live drum and bass, hammond organ, multi tracked vocals, alto sax, trumpet, Special effects: multiphonics, key clicks.
- Inner State: Guitar: rhythmic strumming and fingerstyle melodic work, Sax: glissandos and trills.
- Love and Affection: Varies from original with bass clarinet and distorted electric guitar, synth strings, backing vocals using choir

TEXTURE:

- Inner State: Homophonic texture, 'drop': groove breaks down at the beginning of new sections and then returns.
- Love and Affection: Call and response with soloist and choir