

Starr-Waterman

American Popular Music

Chapter 3: “Catching as the Small-Pox”: Social Dance and Jazz, 1917–1935

Student Study Outline

- I. Technology and the Music Business
 - a. Production and consumption of popular music influenced by new technologies
 - i. **Radio**
 - ii. **Sound film**
 - iii. **Microphone**
 - b. **Radio network**
 - c. **Sound film**
 - d. **Licensing and copyright agencies**
- II. “Freak Dances”: Turkey Trot and Tango
 - a. Intensified influence of African American dance
 - b. Turkey trot
 - c. Tango
- III. James Reese Europe and the Castles
 - a. **Vernon and Irene Castle**
 - b. **James Reese Europe** (1880–1919)
- IV. Listening Guide: “Castle House Rag”
 - a. Music by James Reese Europe, performed by James Reese Europe’s Society Orchestra, recorded 1914
- V. Jazz as popular music: The Original Dixieland Jazz Band, the Creole Jazz Band, and Louis Armstrong
 - a. Jazz craze—next stage in the “African Americanization” of ballroom dance
 - b. First recordings—made in New York City and Chicago (no studios in New Orleans at the time)
 - i. **Nick LaRocca** (1889–1961)
- VI. Listening Guide: Early Jazz Recordings
 - a. “Tiger Rag,” written by Nick LaRocca; performed by the Original Dixieland Jazz Band, recorded 1918
 - i. **Stoptime**
 - b. “Dipper Mouth Blues,” written by King Joe Oliver; performed by the Creole Jazz Band; recorded 1923
 - i. **King Joe Oliver** (1885–1938)
- VII. Louis Armstrong
 - a. **Louis Armstrong** (1901–1971)
 - i. Listening Guide:
 1. “West End Blues” (1928): most important and influential recording
 2. “Ain’t Misbehavin’” (1929): scat singing and humor in music
- VIII. Dance Music in the “Jazz Age”
 - a. **Jazz Age**

- b. African American influence on musical tastes and buying habits of white Americans
 - i. **Noble Sissle** (1899–1975) and **Eubie Blake** (1883–1983)
 - ii. Segregation in dance orchestras
 - c. Paul Whiteman
 - i. **Paul Whiteman** (1890–1967)
 - ii. “Whispering”
 - iii. *Jazz*, autobiography
 - d. Influence of jazz on youth
 - e. Mainstream popular music and jazz
- IX. Listening Guide: “East St. Louis Toodle-Oo”
- a. Written by Duke Ellington and Bubber Miley; performed by Duke Ellington and His Washingtonians; recorded 1927
 - b. **Edward Kennedy “Duke” Ellington** (1899–1974)
 - i. **Soli**
- X. The Rise of Latin Dance Music: “El Manicero”
- a. Cuban dance styles from two genres:
 - i. *Son*: performed by groups called **conjuntos**
 - ii. *Danzón*
 - b. **Justo “Don” Azpiazu** (1893–1943)
 - i. “El Manisero”
 - 1. Variant of the Cuban *son* called a *pregón*

XI. Key Terms

<i>Conjuntos</i>	Microphone	Sound film
Disc jockeys	<i>Pregón</i>	Stoptime
Jazz Age	Radio	
Licensing and copyright agencies	Radio network	
	Soli	

XII. Key People

Edward Kennedy “Duke” Ellington	James Reese Europe	Nick LaRocca
Eubie Blake	Justo “Don” Azpiazu	Noble Sissle
James “Bubber” Miley	King Joe Oliver	Paul Whiteman
	Louis Armstrong	Vernon and Irene Castle