

CELEBRATING  
50 YEARS

THE BEST OF 2019: OUR READERS' AND EXPANDED CRITICS' POLLS

AMERICA'S JAZZ MAGAZINE

# JazzTimes

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CARRINGTON

& SOCIAL  
SCIENCE

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MARCH 2020

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From top: Matthew Stevens,  
Terri Lyne Carrington, Aaron Parks

# 2019 READERS' POLL

VOTING CONDUCTED  
VIA AN ONLINE SURVEY POSTED  
AT JAZZTIMES.COM

Winners are bolded; runners-up are listed below in order of number of votes (an asterisk \* denotes a tie). When casting their ballots at JazzTimes.com, readers were asked to focus on artists' achievements occurring between January and December 2019.

Artist of the Year:  
Wynton Marsalis



## BEST OF ALL

### ARTIST OF THE YEAR

**Wynton Marsalis**  
Chick Corea  
Esperanza Spalding  
Steve Gadd

### NEW ARTIST

**Veronica Swift**  
Terri Lyne Carrington and  
Social Science  
Joel Ross  
Pasquale Grasso

### NEW RELEASE

**Scott Robinson *Tenormore***  
(Arbors)  
Peter Eldridge/Kenny Werner  
*Somewhere* (Rosebud)  
**Veronica Swift *Confessions***

(Mack Avenue)  
**Douyé Quatro *Bossa Nova***  
*Deluxe* (Rhombus)

### VOCAL RELEASE

**Veronica Swift *Confessions***  
(Mack Avenue)  
Catherine Russell *Alone*  
*Together* (Dot Time)  
New York Voices *Reminiscing*  
*in Tempo* (Origin)  
Harry Connick Jr. *True Love: A*  
*Celebration of Cole Porter*  
(Verve)

### HISTORICAL/VAULT/REISSUE RELEASE

**John Coltrane *1963: New***  
*Directions* (Impulse!)  
John Coltrane *Coltrane '58: The*  
*Prestige Recordings* (Craft)  
Miles Davis *The Complete*

*Birth of the Cool* (UMe)  
*Wes Montgomery Back on  
Indiana Avenue: The Carroll  
DeCamp Recordings* (Reso-  
nance)\*  
Esbjörn Svensson Trio *E.S.T.  
Live in Gothenburg* (ACT)\*

## BEST GROUPS

### ACOUSTIC SMALL GROUP/ ARTIST

Chick Corea  
Robert Glasper  
Joey Alexander Trio  
John Pizzarelli

### ELECTRIC/JAZZ-ROCK/ CONTEMPORARY GROUP/ ARTIST

Scott Henderson  
Snarky Puppy  
John Scofield  
Hiromi

### BIG BAND/LARGE ENSEMBLE

Christian McBride Big Band  
WDR Big Band  
Gil Evans Orchestra  
Bob Mintzer Big Band

## BEST OF THE INDUSTRY

### RECORD LABEL

Abstract Logix  
Blue Note  
Ropeadope\*  
ACT\*  
Concord

### SYNDICATED RADIO PRO- GRAM

*Jazz Night in America*  
*Radio Deluxe with John Piz-  
zarelli and Jessica Molaskey*  
*Jazz Inspired with Judy Car-  
michael*  
*Jazz After Hours with Jeff  
Hanley*

### PODCAST

*Straight No Chaser*  
*GuitarWank*  
*Jazz Bastard*  
*The Checkout*



Best New Artist:  
Veronica Swift

### FESTIVAL

Montreux Jazz Festival  
North Sea Jazz Festival  
Chicago Jazz Festival  
Newport Jazz Festival

### CLUB

55 Bar  
The Baked Potato  
Iridium  
Birdland

### DOCUMENTARY

*Miles Davis: Birth of the Cool*  
*Dave Grusin: Not Enough Time*  
*Blue Note Records: Beyond  
the Notes*

### BOOK

*The Musician's Lifeline* by  
Peter Erskine & Dave Black  
*Blue Notes: Jazz, Literature,  
& Loneliness* by Sam V.H.  
Reese  
*Women in Jazz* by Sammy  
Stein  
*Leonard Bernstein and the  
Language of Jazz* by Kather-  
ine Baber

## BEST MUSICIANS

### TRUMPETER

Randy Brecker  
Wynton Marsalis  
Christian Scott aTunde Adjuah  
Arturo Sandoval

### TROMBONIST

Nils Landgren  
Trombone Shorty  
Curtis Fuller  
Steve Turre

### CLARINETIST

Paquito D'Rivera  
Eddie Daniels  
Michael White  
Jeff Lederer

### TENOR SAXOPHONIST

Wayne Shorter  
Chris Potter  
Charles Lloyd  
Kamasi Washington

### ALTO SAXOPHONIST

Kenny Garrett  
David Sanborn  
Steve Coleman  
Rudresh Mahanthappa

### SOPRANO SAXOPHONIST

Wayne Shorter  
Branford Marsalis  
Chris Potter  
Dave Liebman

### BARITONE SAXOPHONIST

John Surman  
James Carter  
Brian Landrus  
Gary Smulyan

### FLUTIST

Hubert Laws  
Charles Lloyd  
Nicole Mitchell  
Holly Hofmann

### VIOLINIST

Jean-Luc Ponty  
Zach Brock  
Regina Carter  
Mark Feldman

### PIANIST

Herbie Hancock  
Chick Corea  
Brad Mehldau  
Hiromi

### KEYBOARDIST

Scott Kinsey  
Herbie Hancock  
Cory Henry  
Jeff Lorber

### ORGANIST

Larry Goldings  
Joey DeFrancesco  
John Medeski  
Cory Henry

### GUITARIST

Scott Henderson  
Oz Noy  
Julian Lage  
John Scofield

### ACOUSTIC BASSIST

John Patitucci  
Christian McBride  
Ron Carter  
Stanley Clarke

### ELECTRIC BASSIST

Hadrien Feraud  
Anthony Jackson  
Jimmy Haslip  
Jeff Berlin

**VIBRAPHONIST**

Roy Ayers  
Mike Mainieri  
Joe Locke  
Mike Dillon

**PERCUSSIONIST**

Trilok Gurtu  
Pedrito Martinez  
Manolo Badrena  
Ray Mantilla

**DRUMMER**

Vinnie Colaiuta  
Steve Gadd  
Antonio Sánchez  
Dave Weckl

**MALE VOCALIST**

Gregory Porter  
Jacob Collier  
George Benson  
Kurt Elling

**FEMALE VOCALIST**

Esperanza Spalding  
Cassandra Wilson  
Diana Krall  
Lizz Wright

**COMPOSER**

Wayne Shorter  
Pat Metheny  
Esperanza Spalding  
Scott Henderson

**ARRANGER**

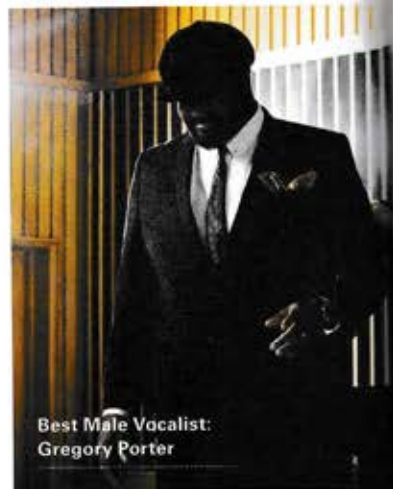
Chick Corea  
Vince Mendoza  
Pat Metheny  
Michael League

**MISC. INSTRUMENTALIST**

Béla Fleck (banjo)  
Andy Narell (steel drums)  
Othello Molineaux (steel drums)  
Grégoire Maret (harmonica)

**VOCAL GROUP**

Take 6  
Manhattan Transfer  
New York Voices  
Tillery



Best Male Vocalist:  
Gregory Porter

# 2019 EXPANDED CRITICS' POLL

FOR THIS ANNUAL COMPANION POLL TO LAST ISSUE'S TOP 50 CRITICS' PICKS, OUR REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS PARTICIPATED IN THIS SURVEY BASED ON OUR YEARLY READER'S POLL

Winners are bolded; runners-up are listed below in order of votes. Contributors were asked to focus on artists' achievements during 2019 rather than assessing entire careers. An asterisk \* denotes a tie.

Best Documentary:  
*Miles Davis: Birth of the Cool*

**BEST OF ALL****ARTIST OF THE YEAR**

Terri Lyne Carrington  
Branford Marsalis  
Joe Lovano  
Kris Davis

**NEW ARTIST**

Angel Bat Dawid  
Joel Ross  
Terri Lyne Carrington and Social Science\*  
Jenny Scheinman & Allison Miller's Parlour Game\*  
Chris Lightcap's SuperBigmouth

**BEST GROUPS**

Acoustic Small Group/Artist  
Crosscurrents Trio (Dave Holland/Zakir Hussain/Chris Potter)  
The Bad Plus  
Fred Hersch Trio  
Sons of Kemet

**ELECTRIC/JAZZ-ROCK/ CONTEMPORARY GROUP/ ARTIST**

Christian Scott aTunde Adjuah  
Snarky Puppy  
Bill Frisell  
Kamasi Washington

**BIG BAND/LARGE ENSEMBLE**

Maria Schneider Orchestra  
Miho Hazama and m\_unit  
Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra  
Anat Cohen Tentet

**BEST OF THE INDUSTRY****RECORD LABEL**

ECM  
Resonance  
Pi\*  
International Anthem\*  
Mack Avenue

**SYNDICATED RADIO PROGRAM**

*Jazz Night in America*  
*Radio Deluxe with John Pizzarelli and Jessica Molaskey*  
*Jazz After Hours with Jeff Hanley*  
*Art Good's JazzTrax*

**PODCAST**

*The Checkout*  
*We Insist! Jazz Speaks Out*  
*Straight No Chaser*  
*A Noise from the Deep*

**FESTIVAL**

Winter Jazzfest (NYC)  
DC Jazz Festival  
Vision Festival  
BRIC JazzFest

**CLUB**

Village Vanguard  
Dizzy's Club Coca-Cola  
Jazz Standard  
The Stone

**DOCUMENTARY**

***Miles Davis: Birth of the Cool***  
*Blue Note Records: Beyond the Notes*  
*Fire Music*

**BOOK**

***Jazz from Detroit* by Mark Stryker**  
*Jazz and Justice: Racism and the Political Economy of the Music* by Gerald Horne  
*Decoding Afro-Cuban Jazz: The Music of Chucho Valdés and Irakere* by Chucho Valdés & Rebecca Mauleón  
*the sound i saw* by Roy DeCarava