

MILES DAVIS TIME LINE---For kids who want to know more about Miles

1926: Born on May 26, Alton, Illinois

1926-1944: Early life in East St. Louis, Illinois. His father was a dental surgeon.

1935- Miles gets his first instrument, a coronet from father's friend.

1939-Miles gets his first trumpet for 13th birthday from his father.

1941-1945: World War II

1943: Miles works professionally with Eddie Randle's Blue Devils.

1944 – The Billy Eckstine Band visits St. Louis. Miles gets his chance to play bebop with Dizzy Gillespie and Charlie Parker.

1944: Miles graduates from Lincoln High School. In September he attends Julliard School of Music.

1944-1948: New York and the BEBOP years with Charlie Parker. He replaces Dizzy Gillespie.

1948-1949: Birth of the Cool. Miles's Nonet- performs new music with a cooler, more relaxed tone. Miles collaborated with arranger Gil Evans. Personnel; Gerry Mulligan, baritone sax, Lee Konitz, alto sax, Bill Barber, tuba, Al Haig, piano, Max Roach, drums, Al McKibbon, bass, John Lewis, piano, Gunther Schuller, French horn.

1949-Miles's first European tour with Tadd Dameron. Miles falls in love with Paris and he's greeted with respect and admiration. When he returns to the United States he faces more racism.

1950-1951- Miles is addicted to heroin. Kicks the habit cold turkey at his father's farm.

1950-1954: Hard Bop and the Blue Period. Plays with Tadd Dameron, Sonny Rollins, among others.

1955: Performs at the Newport Jazz Festival as surprise guest. Personnel included

Thelonious Monk, Gerry Mulligan, Peorcy Heath, Connie Kay, Zoot Simms.

1955-1959: First “visionary” quintet, with Red Garland, piano, Paul Chambers, bass, Philly Joe Jones, drums, Sonny Rollins, he later added John Coltrane, tenor saxophone, which made it the “first great quintet.”

1957-“Birth of the Cool” finally released.

1958- Modal jazz. Bill Evans joins Miles’s sextet.

1959: Kind of Blue album (all times best selling jazz album). Miles Davis collaborated with Bill Evans (pianist) to create musical charts for the musicians to play with no rehearsal. The musicians created one of the best jazz albums in history. John Coltrane, saxophone, Cannonball Adderley, alto saxophone, Bill Evans, piano, Wynton Kelly, piano only on Freddie the Freeloader, Paul Chambers, bass, Jimmy Cobb, drums.

1960: “Sketches of Spain”, Gil Evans arranger.

1963-1968: Second “famed” quintet with, Herbie Hancock, piano, Ron Carter, bass, Tony Williams, drums and Wayne Shorter, saxophone.

1968-1975: Electric Miles/Fusion and rock rhythms.

1975-1980: Retirement

1980-1991: Comeback

1991: Last gig with Quincy Jones.

1991: Miles Davis dies of pneumonia at St. John’s Hospital and Health Center in Santa Monica, California, at age 65.

2006 Inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame

2009 On December 15, 2009, the U.S. House of Representatives passed a symbolic resolution recognizing and commemorating the album Kind of Blue on its 50th anniversary, honoring the music album and reaffirming jazz as a national treasure.