

**THE
SHAPE OF
JAZZ TO
COME**

ORNETTE COLEMAN



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Title: The Shape of Jazz to Come

Released via the German audiophile label, Speakers Corner (<https://www.speakerscornerrecords.com>) we're talking about the more avant side of jazz via a young Coleman from this 1959 release. Coleman took the notion of melody, dropped it on the ground, stepped on it with his size 10s, then picked up the pieces and threw them in a bucket. Then he played the bucket. So Coleman and cohort Don Cherry cheerfully exclaim, "Seeya around

buddy.” Then they both wander off down musical highways, on their own without a chord to restrain them. While Charlie Haden on bass and Billy Higgins on percussion loosely potter about.

These days, the LP is seen as revolutionary. An unpredictable ground breaker. Back then? Oh there was wailing and gnashing of teeth. Check out the emotive *Lonely Woman* as a enter point for this one.

Mastering? It’s been a while since I’ve heard something so darned analogue for some time. There’s no edge, not even a hint. No compression. No tightening of the mids. This music just flows. Well, as avant jazz *can* flow. ‘Darts about a bit’ might be more apt. This is old time record making, and in a good way.