



"Jazz, pfft. They just make it up as they go along. I could do that." Not my words, but those of professional philistine Mr Homer J Simpson – yet in the case of our first offering, he's not wrong. **Free Jazz: A**

**Collective Improvisation by THE ORNETTE COLEMAN DOUBLE QUARTET** (★★★★)

(SPEAKERS CORNER LP) is the very definition of making it up as you go along. A bravura work of cacophony, this 1961 album from the saxophonist and composer that stands as the bedrock of the free jazz movement. A 36-minute-long improvisation by two quartets with wind instruments and no piano, this is the sound of the '50s being dragged kicking and screaming into the new decade, as seminal as the writings of Burroughs, the films of Brakhage and the paintings of Pollock (whose work adorns the sleeve). A polarising album at the time of its release (there can't be many albums that garnered either five stars or no stars depending on the critic), it remains a bonkers *tour de force*, one you wouldn't spin everyday but perfect for blowing away the cobwebs of the mind.