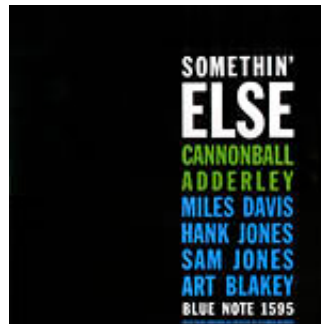


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# Julian "Cannonball" Adderley *Somethin' Else*

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It is my pleasure to review for you, the *Enjoy the Music.com Review Magazine* readership, this perennial favorite jazz recording of mine -- Cannonball Adderley's "Somethin' Else". For reasons I'll disclose later in this write-up (read on), I plan to keep this review short and sweet.

Besides Miles Davis' "Kind of Blue" (KOB), this recording is in my personal list -- as surely in countless others' lists -- of top five or ten greatest jazz albums of all time. Is it a coincidence then that Miles is part of this seminal recording too? Probably not. I'm not going to get into the "hows" or "whys" this recording is considered by so many jazz enthusiasts and music lovers to be one of the very finest expositions of this musical genre. Listen for yourself and be the judge. With Sam Jones on bass, Hank Jones on piano, Art Blakey on drums, Cannonball Adderley on alto sax, and Miles on trumpet....HELLOOO??? Need I say more?

## The recording...

Classic Records just released this 180gm vinyl LP reissue this past June. (God knows I'd been waiting for a *long* time for *the* premium vinyl reissue of this beloved classic). Would it hold its own against the revered Blue Note original LP? Read on.

For comparison's sake, I summoned an original mono Blue Note (thanks Ted!), the recent Blue Note 180gm reissue, the latest Rudy Van Gelder (RVG) Edition 20-bit CD & the MFSL Gold Ultradisc II (both CDs which I own). The shootout is on....yeeehaaa!

BUT....WAIT A MINUTE!!! Remember what I said about keeping this review short and sweet??? OK, this is what happened...

This music is way too cool to pick it apart dudes! Every time I tried to take careful notes, I started to tap my feet and snap my fingers uncontrollably! To be honest with you, I'd still listen to this great music even if it were only available on high grade Toys'R'Us cassette, you know what I mean? Is the Classic reissue then worth the money? Heck yeah!!! It swings like you wouldn't believe! It's way better than than the RVG CD, better than the 180gm Blue Note (though not by tons), better in most ways than the MFSL Ultradisc (which probably has the fullest/tightest bass), and surprisingly enough, better in most ways than the original mono Blue Note. BTW, the RVG CD is also mono. Only the Classic LP, MoFi gold disc & the Blue Note LP are stereo.

Yeah, purists will chime in and say the original's mono presentation IS IT. Whatever. The monos sound very nice presentation-wise. In some ways a bit more coherent I suppose. I have nothing against mono! I'm just not willing to pay crazy prices to acquire a mint original (as if they exist anymore-truly mint that is!) mono or not. I personally found the original mono Blue Note lacking in bass, dynamics and detail big time compared to the Classic. Not to mention that the Classic has flawless and quiet surfaces. The all important midband on the Classic reissue must be heard to be believed! I don't think Miles sounded better (well, except in Classics' KOB).

Bottom line? All you need to know is that if you love great jazz and you are a vinylholic...you must own this reissue! Period.

Enjoyment: 95

Sound Quality: 85

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