

African American Music of the 1940s- 1970s: Blues, R&B, Soul and Funk

Lecturer: Keith McCuaig

Schedule of topics:

Week 1: Some background on African American Music. Early blues and 1940s Chicago blues. Muddy Waters.

Week 2: 1950s Chicago blues and Memphis blues. Howlin' Wolf.

Week 3: 1950s R&B: Sun Studios in Memphis, and Atlantic in New York City. Sam Cooke.

Week 4: 1960s R&B: FAME Studios in Muscle Shoals, Alabama, and Motown in Detroit. Wilson Pickett, Marvin Gaye.

Week 5: 1960s Soul: Origins of Soul, Ray Charles, Aretha Franklin, Otis Redding.

Week 6: 1960s and 1970s Funk: James Brown, George Clinton, Sly Stone.

Recommended readings for continued learning:

Guralnick, Peter. *Sweet Soul Music: Rhythm and Blues and the Southern Dream of Freedom*. NY: Harper, 1986.

Burnim, Mellonie V. and Portia K. Maultsby. *African American Music, an Introduction*. New York: Routledge Taylor & Francis Group, 2006.

Oliver, Paul. *The Story of the Blues*. 1969

Jones, Leroi. *Blues People: Negro Music in White America*. 2002

The James Brown Reader: 50 Years of Writing About the Godfather of Soul, edited by Nelson George and Alan Leeds. 2008.

Gordon, Robert. *Can't Be Satisfied: The Life and Times of Muddy Waters*. 2002

Other interesting resources:

Allmusic.com