Gospel

- Fisk Jubilee Singers (1871-2000s)
- Fisk U, Nashville, est. 1866
- European and Northern tours
- African-American religious songs influenced by Western Classical tradition

Video Ex: Fisk Jubilee Singers

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sLU70RBqxJE
Gospel

• John Alexander’s Sterling Jubilee Singers
• Continues Concert Spiritual Tradition
• Gospel quartet sound (but 5)
• Marketing, crossover both ways

Ex: John Alexander’s Sterling Jubilee Singers
– “Jesus Hits Like an Atom Bomb” (late 1940s)
Gospel

- Rev. CL Franklin (1915-1984)
- b. Sunflower County, Mississippi
- Started preaching at 16
- Detroit

Ex: Reverend C.L. Franklin – “Two Fish and Five Loaves of Bread”

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pLdrFtxKq5s
Sister Rosetta Tharpe

- 1915-1973
- Early career in Gospel
- Later Rock and Roll and Soul
- Recordings with orchestra, choirs, solo, etc.

Video Ex: Sister Rosetta Tharpe – "Didn't It Rain?" (Live, 1964)
- Start around 1:00

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y9a49oFaiZE
Soul Music

• Starts same time as Rock n Roll

• Gospel: Divine love, God

• R&B: Human love, sex

• Taboo mix of blues and gospel

• Very connected to R&B:
  – labels, audience, performers, releases, and re-releases
Ray Charles (1930-2004)

- b. Albany, Georgia, grew up in Greenville, Florida
- Blind by 6
- Crooner since late 40s
- Often credited with starting Soul ("I Got a Woman")
- Atlantic, 1954
Ray Charles

Ex: Ray Charles – “I Got a Woman” (1954)
- #1 R&B, Elvis cover ’55
- Speech singing (Preacher style)
- Vocables: words and sounds blurred
- Melisma: one syllable stretched over many notes

- Love song version of gospel standard:

   Ex: The Southern Tones – “It Must Be Jesus” (1954)
Ray Charles

- Heroin 16 years, 50s/60s
- 2 country albums, ’62
- Bill Cosby story

Ex: Ray Charles – “What’d I Say” (1959)
- #1 R&B, #6 Pop, covers
- Composition on stage, 1am
Sam Cooke (1931-1964)

- b. Clarksdale, MS
- Chicago 1933
- Huge influence

- Shot to death by motel clerk in LA, no charges laid

Ex: Sam Cooke – “Bring It On Home To Me” (1962)
- LA studio, orchestral

Ex: Sam Cooke – “Bring It On Home To Me” (1964)
- Live, Harlem Square Club, Miami – the “real” Sam?
Aretha Franklin (1942-2018)

- b. Memphis, Detroit at 5
- Gospel with Dad
- Teen Gospel records
- 18: Columbia – lush pop
- 1967: Atlantic (grittier, FAME band)

Ex: Aretha Franklin –
“I Never Loved A Man (The Way I Love You)” (1967)
Etta James  
(1938-2012)

• Various genres  
• Chess, early 1960s  
• Heroin  
• FAME

• Chess, genre?