



*Charlie Parker and Red Rodney watch a band featuring Dizzy Gillespie at the Downbeat, New York, ca. 1947*



**HDTT**   
HIGH DEFINITION TAPE TRANSFERS

**RED RODNEY**

**IRA SULLIVAN**

**RED RODNEY**

**TOMMY FLANAGAN**

**RED RODNEY**

**OSCAR PETTIFORD**

**RED RODNEY**

**PHILLY JOE JONES**

**RED RODNEY**

Red Rodney's comeback in the late '70s was quite inspiring and found the veteran bebop trumpeter playing even better than he had during his legendary period with Charlie Parker. He started his professional career by performing with Jerry Wald's orchestra when he was 15, and he passed through a lot of big bands, including those of Jimmy Dorsey (during which Rodney closely emulated his early idol Harry James), Elliot Lawrence, Georgie Auld, Benny Goodman, and Les Brown. He totally changed his style after hearing Dizzy Gillespie and Charlie Parker, becoming one of the brighter young voices in bebop. Rodney made strong contributions to the bands of Gene Krupa (1946), Claude Thornhill, and Woody Herman's Second Herd (1948-1949). Off and on during 1949-1951, Rodney was a regular member of the Charlie Parker Quintet, playing brilliantly at Bird's recorded Carnegie Hall concert of 1949. But drugs cut short that association, and Rodney spent most of

the 1950s in and out of jail. After he kicked heroin, almost as damaging to his jazz chops was a long period playing for shows in Las Vegas. When he returned to New York in 1972, it took Rodney several years to regain his former form. However, he hooked up with multi-instrumentalist Ira Sullivan in 1980 and the musical partnership benefited both of the veterans; Sullivan's inquisitive style inspired Rodney to play post-bop music (rather than continually stick to bop) and sometimes their quintet (which also featured Garry Dial) sounded like the Ornette Coleman Quartet, amazingly. After Sullivan went back to Florida a few years later, Rodney continued leading his own quintet which in later years featured the talented young saxophonist Chris Potter. Red Rodney, who was portrayed quite sympathetically in the Clint Eastwood film *Bird* (during which he played his own solos), stands as proof that for the most open-minded veterans there is life beyond bop.

# RED RODNEY

RED RODNEY 1957

RED RODNEY 1957

- 1 Star Eyes 10:52
- 2 You Better Go Now 5:30
- 3 Stella By Starlight 6:01
- 4 Red Arrow 5:07
- 5 Box 2000 5:58
- 6 Ubas 4:52

Trumpet – Red Rodney, Ira Sullivan (tracks: 4), Bass – Oscar Pettiford  
Drums – "Philly" Joe Jones (tracks: 1 to 3), Elvin Jones (tracks: 4 to 6)  
Piano – Tommy Flanagan Tenor Saxophone – Ira Sullivan

Recorded At – Van Gelder Studio, Hackensack, New Jersey by Signal Records  
Tracks 1-3 recorded November 22, 1957 Tracks 4-6 recorded November 24, 1957  
Producer – Don Schlitten Recorded By – Rudy Van Gelder



For more info e-mail us:  
[admin@highdeftapetransfers.com](mailto:admin@highdeftapetransfers.com)  
or visit our website:  
[www.highdeftapetransfers.com](http://www.highdeftapetransfers.com)