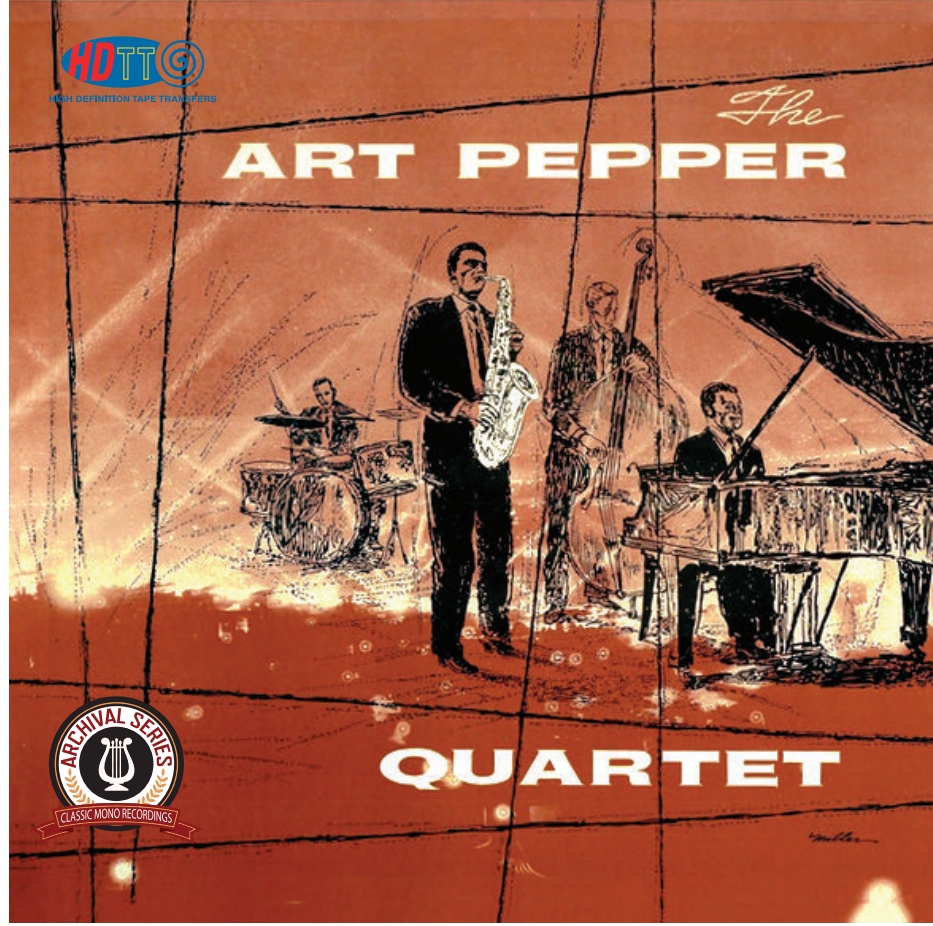


anon to detox himself. Here, he met his third wife Laurie. After three years, his willingness to play returned. He treated himself with methadone, which allowed him to make a "come-back" in 1975 and release several well-received records. In 1977, he performed at the Village Vanguard before a second and successful tour of Japan. His 1980 autobiography, co-written with Laurie is a unique exploration of the jazz and drugs worlds in California. In 1980, with *Winter Moon* recorded for Galaxy, he released one of the most beautiful jazz records with strings.

His health weakened and he died in 1982 in Los Angeles.



Released on the small Tampa label, this album features the great altoist Art Pepper with pianist Russ Freeman, bassist Ben Tucker, and drummer Gary Frommer. The quality of the music here is high, if brief -- even with his erratic lifestyle, Pepper never made a bad record. Highlights include the Pepper original "Diane," "Bésame Mucho," and "Pepper Pot." Fine music, but not essential when one considers how many gems Art Pepper recorded during his rather hectic life.

As a child, Art Pepper studied clarinet before switching to alto saxophone. He started his musical career in the 1940s with Gus Arnheim, Benny Carter and Lee Young. He then joined Stan Kenton with whom he stayed a year (1943)

before entering the army. After his military service, he came back to Kenton's Orchestra, where he was a intermittent member from 1947 through 1952. At that point, he formed his quartet and also had his first troubles with illicit drugs. He was sent to jail for two years. After being released in August 1954, he recorded for Pacific Jazz, Tampa and Intro before starting a long collaboration with Lester Koenig's Contemporary Records. He then became one of the finest West Coast Jazz musicians with, among others, Chet Baker, Gerry Mulligan and Shelly Manne.

But his life became more and more chaotic and from 1959, he was frequently jailed at San Quentin. In 1966, he was freed but fell again. When re-released, he decided to go to Syn-

The Art Pepper Quartet

- 1 Art's Opus 5:47
- 2 I Surrender Dear 5:27
- 3 Diane 3:32
- 4 Pepper Pot 5:02
- 5 Besame Mucho 4:00
- 6 Blues At Twilight 3:57
- 7 Val's Pal 1:57

Alto Saxophone – Art Pepper Bass – Ben Tucker

Drums – Gary Frommer Piano – Russ Freeman

Recorded by Tampa Records

November 23, 1956 at Radio Recorders, Hollywood, CA

Supervised By – Robert Scherman Engineer – Val Valentin

The Art Pepper Quartet



The Art Pepper Quartet



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