

FROM EXECUTIVE PRODUCER  
WIM WENDERS



FEATURING  
HERBIE HANCOCK  
WAYNE SHORTER  
SONNY ROLLINS  
QUINCY JONES  
SHEILA JORDAN  
BENNY GOLSON  
KENNY BURRELL  
LOU DONALDSON

A FILM BY ERIC FRIEDLER

# IT MUST SCHWING

THE BLUE NOTE STORY



IN COLLABORATION WITH



# It Must Schwing



ORIGINAL TITLE	It Must Schwing
DIRECTOR	Eric Friedler
GENRE	Documentary
LENGTH	115 min
CAST	Herbie Hancock Sonny Rollins Wayne Shorter Quincy Jones Lou Donaldson Sheila Jordan Ron Carter Rudy van Gelder George Benson
PRODUCTION	NDR, Neue Road Movies, Studio Hamburg Enterprises
STATUS	Completed
DELIVERY	Available
NATIONALITY	Germany
LANGUAGE	English

## SYNOPSIS

In 1939, Alfred Lion and Francis Wolff, two young émigrés from Berlin, founded the legendary jazz label Blue Note Records in New York. The label dedicated itself exclusively to the recording of American jazz music and developed its own unmistakable recording style and sound.

Blue Note Records discovered and produced an impressive roster of international jazz stars. This included Miles Davis, Herbie Hancock, John Coltrane, Sonny Rollins, Wayne Shorter, Thelonious Monk and Quincy Jones. At a time when Afro-American musicians in the USA were discriminated against and ostracised, Blue Note records respected them as artists and equals. Not only did the label value their talents, it also gave them a much-needed stage. „It Must Schwing!“ tells the moving story of two friends, united by a passionate love for jazz, and of their profound belief in equality and freedom for every single human being.

## DIRECTOR

Award-winning director Eric Friedler, born 1971 in Sydney, Australia, is one of the most acclaimed and prolific documentary filmmakers in Germany. He won the Award for Best Documentary at the New York International Film three times and TV Festival for THE SILENCE OF THE QUANDTS (2007), AGHET - A GENOCIDE (2010) and A GERMAN BOXER (2012) as well as two Awards for Best Documentary at the Houston Film Festival and received the prestigious Grimme Award five times. In 2018 he directed IT MUST SCHWING! - THE BLUE NOTE STORY

