

THE SIGHTS AND_SOUNDS OF AMERICAN JAZZ



A RECORD OF JAZZ BY WILLIAM CLAXTON AND JOACHIM BERENDT <

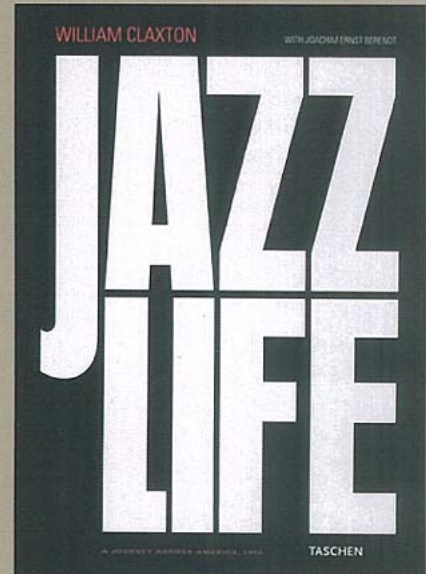
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> BY_JALENA_WADE

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arly in October of 1959 I received a telephone call from Germany. The person introduced himself as Joachim-Ernst Berendt, a musicologist living in Germany. In very good English, he explained that he was coming to America to do a study of "America's great art, jazz." He went on to say that he needed a photographer to work with him, a photographer who liked and understood jazz. He had seen a great deal of my work published in European magazines and on record covers and thought that I would be the perfect choice to work with him, "because your pictures have soul." He went on to explain that the book would be mainly a collection of my images to augment his writings about jazz. There would be interviews with musicians, descriptions of the various places where one hears jazz, and a look at the origins of jazz as well as the art itself. He made it all sound a bit erudite, but it seemed like a very important project, and I was thrilled by his offer. The chance to photograph many of my jazz heroes in addition to the many unknown and yet-to-be-discovered jazz musicians all around America, was too tempting to resist."

- William Claxton



William Claxton and Joaquim Berendt, Jazz Life
Published by : Taschen, Hardcover, 708 Pages



So they spent almost two years travelling around the US hot on the trail of jazz music...! The book *Jazzlife*, the original fruit of their labours, has become a beautiful collector's item that is highly treasured among jazz and photography fans. In 2003 Taschen began reassembling this important collection of material, along with many never before seen colour images from those trips. They are brought together in this updated volume, utilizing the benefits of today's digital technology, a restored audio CD from Joaquim's recordings has been produced and is included in this package. Jazz fans will be delighted to be able to take a jazz-trip through time, both seeing and hearing the music as William and Joachim originally experienced it...

