Côte à Côte—Coast to Coast: Art and Jazz in France and California explores the intersection of jazz music with postwar art and culture. Moving beyond the investigation of traditional jazz histories, the conference focuses on the development of West Coast jazz and France’s unique jazz culture. Côte à Côte includes scholarly presentations as well as film screenings, conversations with artists and musicians, poetry readings, and performances, and culminates on November 15 in a concert with West Coast and French musicians playing well-known jazz favorites and new interpretations of jazz classics.

The first day of Côte à Côte looks at the innovations and constraints that characterized the development of jazz cultures. West Coast musicians invented sounds and styles unique to California, while French musicians created their own brand of jazz, giving it new political and social functions. Female jazz musicians faced the challenges of performing in a male-dominated world, and many African American jazz players left the United States for France in search of greater creative freedom and a respite from oppressive social conditions. In both California and France, jazz music inspired writers, performers, and visual artists, who in turn applied jazz innovations to their own media.

The second day of Côte à Côte examines where jazz was created and how these spaces were affected by changing social environments. In Los Angeles, Central Avenue and Hollywood became important cultural and musical centers for advancing and showcasing local talent. Similarly, the Latin Quarter and Saint-Germain-des-Prés in Paris became cultural crossroads where music brought diverse populations together. Meanwhile, in both California and France, aesthetics and politics as well as recording companies, music venues, and the film industry determined who could experience the new sounds of jazz and how far the music would travel.
Call and Response: The Development of Jazz Cultures

10:00 – 10:15 a.m.
Welcome and Opening Remarks
THOMAS W. GAEHTGENS, Getty Research Institute

Introduction
ANDREW PERCHUK, Getty Research Institute

10:15 – 10:45 a.m.
Different Grooves: USA-France Postwar Cultural Relations
SERGE GUILBAUT, University of British Columbia
10:45 – 11:30 a.m.
Now's the Time
A conversation with photographer MARCEL FLEISS
Moderated by SERGE GUILBAUT, University of British Columbia

11:30 – 11:45 a.m.
BREAK

11:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
The Birth (and Death) of the Cool
TED GIOIA, independent scholar
12:15 – 12:45 p.m.
Jazz and the African American Experience in Postwar Paris
TYLER STOVALL, University of California at Berkeley

12:45 – 2:00 p.m.
LUNCH

2:00 – 2:30 p.m.
Jazz and the Artistic Landscape in France, 1920–1960
LUDOVIC TOURNÈS, Université de Rouen
2:30 – 3:00 p.m.
Panel Discussion
Moderated by SERGE GUILBAUT, University of British Columbia
3:00 – 3:15 p.m.
BREAK

3:15 – 4:30 p.m.
Visual Artists on Jazz
A conversation with ED BEREAL, GEORGE HERMS, and JOHN OUTTERBRIDGE
Moderated by ULYSSES JENKINS, University of California at Irvine
4:30 – 5:00 p.m.
BREAK

Making the Scene: The Spaces and Places of Jazz

10:00 – 10:15 a.m.
Welcome and Opening Remarks
RANI SINGH, Getty Research Institute
10:15 – 10:45 a.m.
Disk-Jockeying for Position in the 1950s
SERGE GUILBAUT, University of British Columbia
10:45 – 11:30 a.m.
Jazz in Los Angeles
A conversation with photographer WILLIAM CLAXTON
Special guests DENNIS HOPPER and BUD SHANK
Moderated by RANI SINGH, Getty Research Institute

11:30 – 11:45 a.m.
BREAK

11:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
Jazz and the African American Experience in Postwar Paris
TYLER STOVALL, University of California at Berkeley

12:15 – 12:45 p.m.
Local Avant-gardes: Wallace Berman, Jazz, and Semina in Postwar Los Angeles
KEN ALLAN, Seattle University

12:45 – 2:00 p.m.
LUNCH

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