

On this day in jazz (June 25)

Written by Administrator
Monday, 22 June 2015 10:47 -

On this day in 1972, [Rahsaan Roland Kirk](#) was recorded in concert for the album *I, Eye, Aye: Live at the Montreux Jazz Festival, 1972*

. During the concert, you can hear Rahsaan playing the tenor saxophone, manzello, stritch, clarinet and flute. His rhythm section was composed of Ron Burton at the piano, Henry "Pete" Pearson on bass, Robert Shy on the drums and Joe Habad Texidor with additional percussion.

Continuing with the avant-garde theme from yesterday, I thought that Rahsaan was a perfect follow up--plus I think that I have only featured him one other time on my blog. Like several other jazz giants of the 60s and 70s, Kirk was outspoken when it came to both black history and civil rights--often breaking into monologue between songs. Jay Leno who opened for Rahsaan on one of his tours said that Kirk would introduce him by saying, "I want to introduce a young brother who knows the black experience and knows all about the white devils Please welcome Jay Leno!". I wonder who was the better comedian? One other bit of trivia: Jimi Hendrix, arguably the greatest rock guitarist of all time, had hoped to record with Rahsaan but unfortunately would die before that could happen.

Thom Jurek in his review for [allmusic.com](#) said the following about the album:

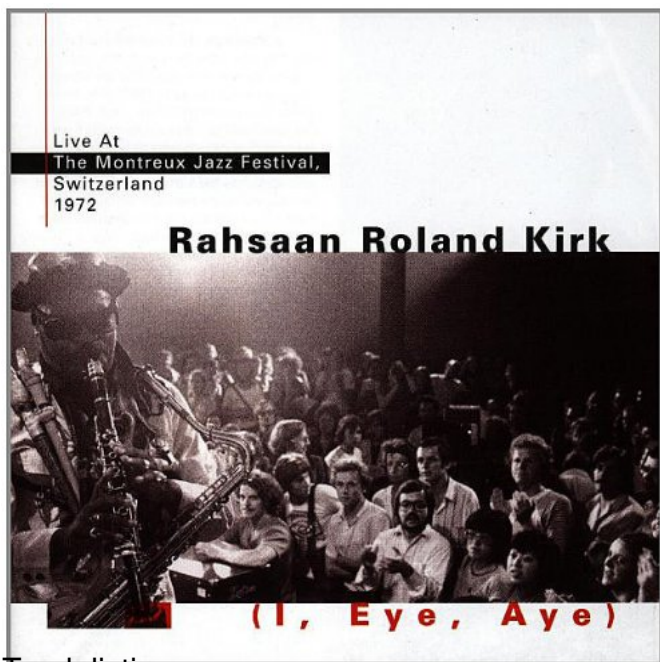
This live recording is a companion to a documentary called *The One Man Twins...*The set is absolutely electrifying. From the few short raps Kirk offers the crowd, one cannot be prepared for the honking, shouting, funky, gritty sets that follow... This is a hell of an introduction to one of the least-understood figures in jazz history, and an absolute necessity for fans.

Here's Rahsaan with "[Volunteered Slavery](#)":

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Track listing: [Rahsaan Roland Kirk - "I, Eye, Aye" \(Duke Ellington/Kirk\) 4:10](#), [Rahsaan Roland Kirk - "Outrage" \(Kirk\) 4:10](#), [Rahsaan Roland Kirk - "The Gypsy" \(Kirk\) 4:10](#), [Rahsaan Roland Kirk - "The Gypsy" \(Kirk\) 4:10](#)

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Track listing: [Andrew Hill - "The Grasshopper" \(Hill\) 6:55](#), [Andrew Hill - "The Grasshopper" \(Hill\) 6:55](#)