

Sean McCusker's List of Definitive* Players, by Style

*"Definitive" meaning one or two individuals who dominated cultural or industry standards of the time with their style and influence on other players. This list is non-exhaustive and reflective of my own influences and biases, and your own personal list of who you consider to be definitive may be much different!

Traditional Jazz

- Kid Ory
- Jack Teagarden

Others of Note

- Honoré Dutrey
- Miff Mole
- Trummy Young

Swing

- Bill Harris

Others of Note

- Dicky Wells
- Lawrence Brown
- Harold Betters

Ballad Players

- Tommy Dorsey

Others of Note

- Dick Nash
- Urbie Green

Bebop

- Carl Fontana
- Frank Rosolino

Others of Note

- Jimmy Cleveland
- Jimmy Knepper
- Eddie Bert

"Modern"

- JJ Johnson

Others of Note

- Slide Hampton
- Curtis Fuller

Plunger

- "Tricky" Sam Nanton
- Al Grey

Others of Note

- Quentin "Butter" Jackson
- Booty Wood
- Art Baron

Funk

- Fred Wesley

Others of Note

- Wayne Henderson
- Joseph Bowie

Latin/Salsa

- Barry Rogers
- Willie Colon

Avant Garde/Free Jazz

- Roswell Rudd

Valve Trombonists

- Bob Brookmeyer

Big Band Lead Trombone

- Britt Woodman
- Kai Winding

Bass Trombone

- George Roberts

Ska

- Don Drummond

Others of Note

- Ozzie Melendez
- Jimmy Bosch

Others of Note

- Grachan Moncur III
- Albert Mangelsdorff

Others of Note

- Juan Tizol
- Rob McConnell

Others of Note

- Bob Burgess
- Grover Mitchell
- Dick Shearer

Others of Note

- Paul Faulise
- Alan Raph
- Tony Studd
- Dave Taylor

Others of Note

- Sam Gellerstein *

(*The Self Anointed King of Ska)

- Luis Bonilla

(From his time in the Skatalites - he is also obviously an incredibly prominent player of many other styles as well!)