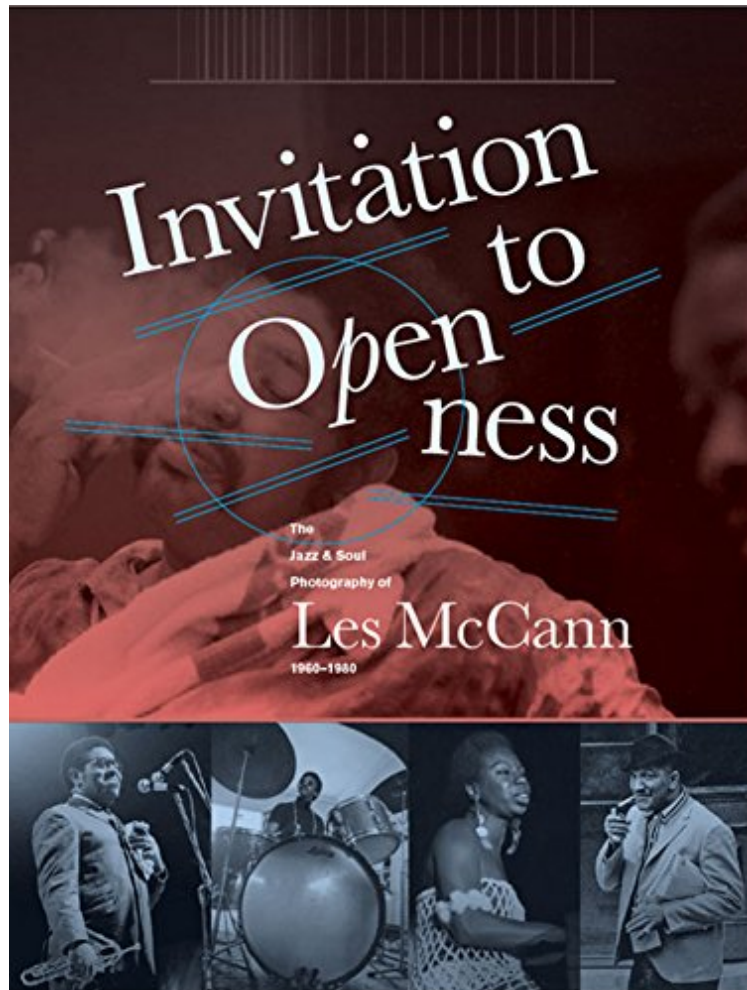


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# Invitation To Openness: The Jazz Soul Photography Of Les McCann 1960-1980

*Les McCann*

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**Les McCann : Invitation To Openness: The Jazz Soul Photography Of Les McCann 1960-1980** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Invitation To Openness: The Jazz Soul Photography Of Les McCann 1960-1980:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Great!By N. SandersYes. Great!0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. This is an absolutely stunning view of musical history through ...By Musicians CreateThis is an absolutely stunning view of musical history through the artful lens and creative soul of a master!2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Worth every dime!By Mary BogueBeautiful, rich black and white photos commemorating all of Les's time behind the scenes in the 70's and '80's. A stunning book by a great musician, but an even better friend.

This collects the photographs of legendary musician Les McCann; he documented the jazz scene and its players Nina Simone, John Coltrane, Count Basie, and many others from the inside, across several decades. Throughout Les McCann's incredible jazz career, he took hundreds of photos at clubs, studios, and festivals around the world and documented the vibrant cultural life of jazz and soul between 1960 and 1980. These photos include a very young Stevie Wonder, Nina Simone, Sammy Davis Jr., John Coltrane, Aretha Franklin, Nancy Wilson, Richard Pryor, Quincy Jones, Tina Turner, Miles Davis, Cannonball Adderly, Louis Armstrong, Count Basie, B.B. King, Errol Garner, Stanley Clarke, Bill Evans, Lionel Hampton, and other black celebrities, such as Bill Cosby, Muhammed Ali, and Stokely Carmichael to name but a few. These photos are characterized by their intimacy, and the cross-section of names listed is merely the tip of the iceberg. The book features candid commentary by McCann himself and is curated by Pat Thomas (*Listen, Whitey!: The Sights and Sounds of Black Power 1965-1975*) and maverick music producer Alan Abrahams (*Pure Prairie League, Joan Baez, Stanley Turrentine, Kris Kristofferson, Taj Mahal*). Black white

If McCann never touched a piano in his life, he'd likely still have become famous as a photographer. The proof is in his new book, *Invitation to Openness: The Jazz Soul Photography of Les McCann*, which collects many of his best pictures. Looking at McCann's photographs, one gets the distinct sense of being in the room with the subjects. ... In each case, McCann's lens strips these icons of pretense, brushes away the dust of history, and leaves them not naked, not vulnerable, but open. - Travis Atria, *Red Bull Music Academy* One of the most thoroughly enjoyable parts of the book *Invitation to Openness*, alongside his insightful pictures, is McCann's personal remembrances of his photographic subjects... - Chris M. Slaweki, *All About Jazz* About the Author Born in 1935 in Lexington, Kentucky, pianist/singer/songwriter Les McCann moved to Los Angeles in the 1950s (after a stint in the Navy), where he formed a popular trio. Miles Davis urged him to work with Cannonball Adderly, but McCann chose to remain independent, and began recording soul-jazz albums for the Pacific Jazz label in 1960. His socially conscious album *Swiss Movement*, recorded live at the Montreux Jazz Festival in Switzerland, has sold millions of copies and reached #1 on the Billboard chart. McCann's work continued to chart throughout the '70s: he has collaborated with many noteworthy musicians, and he is frequently sampled. McCann is also a painter, and has exhibited his photography. He continues to tour. Pat Thomas has appeared on the BBC NPR as the author of *Listen, Whitey!* he was a consultant to the PBS documentary *The Black Panthers: Vanguard of the Revolution*. He has lectured at USC, Evergreen State and the Universities of Copenhagen, Oslo East London. He curated the book *Invitation To Openness: The Jazz Soul Photography of Les McCann 1960-1980* and compiled an Allen Ginsberg box set: *The Last Word on First Blues*. He lives in California.