



Thelonious Monk :: *Live at Newport 1963 & 1965*...Jazz pianist Thelonious Monk's first nightly gig was in a club that could afford a piano player or a piano tuner – but not both. His performances were filled with wonderfully composed melodies in which he searched for the notes between the notes – a trait that critics and fellow musicians would call genius. The 1965 album *Live at Newport*, lost in a vault for 37 years and discovered by Orrin Keepnews (a reissue specialist at Columbia), is the lost grail of Monk at Newport, which jazz entrepreneurs have wondered about for years. With such a rich collection of reissues stemming from Newport, this is an insightful collection of his best-known albums with a spin. For a true jazz enthusiast, it's time to put the vinyl in short storage and buy the new versions. But for new Monk listeners – you're ready to begin with the best. [Dan Marek](#)