

We asked Kenan Doğulu:

Can jazz and pop music be friends?

Jazz and pop music are sometimes very close and sometimes very removed from each other. Pop music addresses the general public; it is easily understood and quickly consumed, stays within fixed parameters, doesn't leave much room for improvisation, and rapidly adapts to trendy technologies and advances in communication. It is characterized by short songs, catchy tunes, and easy and memorable lyrics. Jazz has evolved from a musical style that was mainly for dancing and entertainment to a profound musical genre that is mainly for listening. It has become a space of freedom in which musicians – often classically trained – express themselves and display their talents. The songs are long, improvisations without limit and harmonisations a lot richer than popular music. Some people think that it's difficult to understand. But these two major musical genres share a lot in common and are actually friends. Hundreds of musicians, including Robbie Williams, Madonna, George Michael, John Mayer and Sting, introduced their audiences to re-harmonised versions of their songs. Composers of other genres, such as Lady Gaga, Bono, Bob Dylan and Elvis Presley, performed their songs with giant jazz orchestras; and in turn, great jazz masters like Frank Sinatra, Aretha Franklin, John Coltrane and Miles Davis performed covers of pop songs.



IT'S YOUR TURN

Grab two pencils and on hard surface like a table top, tap to the rhythm of five different versions of *Dancing Queen* that we picked for you.

Jan Garbarek

Born in 1947 in Norway, the saxophone player Jan loved to play football more than he loved music during his childhood. One day when he came home from school, a radio programme called "The Hour of Jazz" was on. He was very moved by a song he heard on this programme. Immediately, he went out and bought himself several jazz records. But unfortunately, he couldn't find that tune which had left such a deep impression on him. Later, when he was 14 years old, he found out that it was a song called "Countdown" from John Coltrane's album *Giant Steps*. This was his introduction to jazz music. Then he asked his family to buy him a saxophone. Until the actual instrument arrived, he sat down with a saxophone book and studied its contents. Jan Garbarek performed for the first time in Istanbul in 1988 at the 16th Istanbul Festival organised by İKSV, then again in 1995, 1997, and 2002 as the guest of the Istanbul Jazz Festival.



SUGGESTED SONGS



NAME THE GENRE

Aside, we've listed some of the musicians who covered the ABBA band's famous song *Dancing Queen*. Would you listen to these songs and say what musical genre they belong to?
Musical Genres:
Country, classic, bossa nova, jazz/swing, pop.

ABBA _____

Eldissa _____

André Rieu _____

Scott Bradlee's Postmodern Jukebox _____

Martin Riverfield and the Wheels of Fortune Band _____