

## The Manhattan Transfer

### "Birdland"

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Five thousand lightyears from Birdland  
But I'm still preachin' the rythm  
Long gone uptight years from Birdland  
And I'm still teachin' it with 'em

Years from the land of the Bird  
And I am still feelin' the spirit  
Five thousand lightyears from Birdland  
But I know people can hear it

Bird named it, Bird made it  
Bird heard it, Then played it  
Well stated  
Birdland  
It happened down in Birdland

In the middle of that hub  
I remember one jazz club  
Where we went to pat feet  
Down on 52nd Street  
Everybody heard that word  
That they named it after Bird  
Where the rythm swooped and swirled  
The jazz corner of the world  
And the cats they ginged in there  
Were beyond compare

Birdland, I'm singing Birdland  
Birdland, Old swingin' Birdland

Hey man, the music really turns you on (ya turn me on)  
Really? Ya turn me around  
And turn me on

Down them stairs, Lose them cares  
Where? Down in Birdland  
Total swing, Bop was king there  
Down in Birdland  
Bird would cook, Max would look  
Where? Down in Birdland  
Miles came through, Trane came too there

Down in Birdland  
Basie blew, Blakie too  
Where? Down in Birdland  
Cannonball played that hall there  
Down in Birdland, Yeah

There will never be nothin' such as that  
No more, skoo be wah, no more  
Down in Birdland, That's where it was at  
I know, ah ah ah ah ah, I know  
Back in them days bop was ridin' high  
Hello, heh heh heh heh heh, Goodbye!

(Yo yo yo yo yo yo yo yo...)  
How well those cats remember their first Birdland gig  
To play in Birdland is an honor we still dig  
Yeah, That club was like in another world  
Sure enough, Yeah baby  
All those cats were cookin' on  
People just sat and they were steady lookin' on  
Then Bird, He came and spread the word  
(Birdland)

Yes indeed he did  
Yes indeed he did  
Yes indeed he did, Yes he did Parker played in  
Birdland  
Yes he really did  
Yes indeed he really did told the truth way down in  
Birdland  
Yes indeed he did, Yardbird Parker played in Birdland  
Yes indeed he really did, Charlie Parker played in  
Birdland

Bird named it, Bird made it  
Bird heard it, Then played it  
Well stated  
Birdland  
It happened down in Birdland

Everybody dug that beat  
Everybody stomped their feet  
Everybody digs be bop  
And they'll never stop

Down them stairs, Lose them cares  
Yeah, Down in Birdland  
Total swing, Bop was king  
Yeah, Down in Birdland  
Bird would cook, Max would look  
Yeah, Down in Birdland

Miles came through, Trane came too  
Yeah, Down in Birdland  
Basie blew, Blakie too  
Yeah, Down in Birdland  
Cannonball played that hall  
Yeah, Down in Birdland  
(repeat under the following solo till fade)

Come in pairs, Down them stairs, Lose your cares  
Him that cares gets it  
Play the gate, Don't be late, It's a date  
What d'ya know  
Is it me, Is it you, It's a clue  
Come in twos, Pay your dues, What can you lose?  
Just your blues, So lose them!  
(ad libbing till the end)

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