Bill DeArango, born in 1921, has played with some of the world's great jazz musicians. The list reads like a who's who in jazz from the 1940's. Ben Webster, Charlie Ventura, Coleman Hawkins, Red Norvo, Dizzy Gillespie and others. By 1950 this amazing guitar player had laid down some of the most inventive and creative jazz guitar solos known at that time. And, all this creative output was accomplished playing in the shadows of the great horn players of that period in New York.

DeArango left New York and the national jazz scene at the close of the forties and made his home in Cleveland, Ohio. He surfaced again in 1954 with a great recording entitled DeArango on which he displays the same great playing that set him apart from other guitarists on 52nd street in New York.

Bill DeArango has been active in the music business right up to the present. He owned a music store in Cleveland for many years and participated in the whole music scene in Cleveland from jazz to rock. He appears on some rock and free jazz recordings from the 1970's and 1980's. Even today it is not unusual to find Bill DeArango billed at places like the Barking Spider Tavern in Cleveland.

In 1993, DeArango made a free jazz CD with Joe Lovano called Anything Went. This CD also contains some standards that along with the free jazz forms demonstrates the amazing musical range of this musician.

(Texte zu DeArango:
- Down Beat 1947
- Liner-Notes: EMARCY (EP, 1954)
- Jazz Journal 1971)
25 May 1945, New York:

2 [W-3326] *I'd Rather Have A Memory Than A Dream* (Feather/Russell)
3 [W-3327] *Mean To Me* (Turk/Ahlert)

Sarah Vaughan (as Sara Vaughan), voc; Dizzy Gillespie (as John Birks), tp; Charlie Parker, as; Flip Phillips, ts; Nat Jaffe (1,3), Tad Dameron (2), p; Bill de Arango, g (no solo); Curly Russell, b; Max Roach, dr.

1-2: Continental C-6008; 3: Continental 6024.

1-3: LP-Reissues: Continental CLP 16004; Remington RLP 1024 und R 199-258; Masterseal MS 55; Palace A 673; Spinorama A 55; Concertum JCR 258; Coronet CXS 277; Ember 3408; Musidisc CV 1201; Premier PM 9047.


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28 May 1945, New York:

1 [W-3328] *Honeysuckle Rose* (Razaf/Waller)
2 [W-3329] *Mood To Be Stewed* (Feather)
3 [W-3330] *The Voice Of The Turtle* (Feather)
4 [W-3331] *Slammin' The Gate* (Feather)
5 [W-3332] *Jingle Bells* (Trad.)
6 [W-3333] *On The Upside Looking Down* (Feather)
7 [W-3334] *Time Of My Hands* (Adamson/Gordon/Youmans)
8 [W-3335] *A Bell For Norvo* (Norvo)

Slam Stewart Quintet: Red Norvo, vib; Johnny Guarnieri, p; Bill de Arango, g (solo in 4,6,8); Slam Stewart, b; Morey Feld, dr.


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12 June 1945, New York:

1 [S-5822] *I Can't Give You Anything But Love* (McHugh/Fields)
2 [S-5823] *Crazy Rhythms* (Meyer/Kahn)
3 [S-5824] *I Can't Get Started* (Duke/Gershwin)
4 [S-5825] *Whispering* (Schonberger)
5 [S-5826] *I'll See You In My Dreams* (Jones/Kahn)

Charlie Kennedy Quintette: Charlie Kennedy, ts; Johnny Guarnieri, p; Bill DeArango, g (solo in 1-5); Al McKibbon, b; Buddy DeRocco, dr.

7 August 1945, New York:

1 [S-5828] *Girl Of My Dreams* (Clapp)
2 [S-5829] *Jim Dawgs* (Quebec)
3 [S-5830] *Scufflin'* (unknown)
4 [S-5831] *I. Q. Blues (Blue Harlem)* (Quebec)

*Ike Quebec All Stars*: Ike Quebec, ts; Johnny Guarnieri, p; Bill D'Arango, g (solo in 1-3); Milton Hinton, b; J.C. Heard, dr.

1: Savoy 620; 2/4: Savoy 570, Musidisc (F) CV 696; 3: Savoy X8033.

7 September 1945, New York:

1 *Sweet Georgia Brown* (Bernie/Pinkard/Casey)
2 *Blue Skies* (Berlin)
3 *St. Louis Blues* (Handy)
4 *I Know That You Know* (Youmans/Caldwell)

*Erroll Garner Trio*: Erroll Garner, p; Bill De Arango, g (no solo); John Levy, Jr., b.

1/2: Associated ZZ-4835; 3/4: Associated ZZ-4838.

22 February 1946, New York:

1 [PD6-VB-1682-1] *52nd Street Theme* (Monk) CT
2 [PD6-VB-1682-2] *52nd Street Theme* (Monk) MT
3 [PD6-VB-1683-1] *A Night In Tunesia* (Gillespie/Paparelli) MT
4 [PD6-VB-1683-2] *A Night In Tunesia* (Gillespie/Paparelli) IT
5 [PD6-VB-1684-1] *Ol' Man Rebop* (Feather)
6 [PD6-VB-1685-1] *Anthropology* (Parker/Gillespie) MT
7 [PD6-VB-1685-2] *Anthropology* (Parker/Gillespie) CT

*Dizzy Gillespie Septet*: Dizzy Gillespie, tp; Don Byas, ts (1-5); Milt Jackson, vib; Al Haig, p; Bill de Arango, g (solo in 1,2,5-7); Ray Brown, b; J.C. Heard, dr.

2/5: LP-Reissue RCA (France) 731068; 1/3-4/6-7: LP-Reissue RCA (France) 741106.

April 1946, New York:

1 [106-A] *Don't Be A Baby, Baby* (Kaye/Steiner)
2  [106-B]  *Lazy Lullaby* (Markes/Stone)
3  [107-A]  *Try, Try Again* (Moore/Hardy)
4  [107-B]  *Tidal Wave* (Rhodes)

"Trummy" Young And Orchestra With Four Jazz Award Winners: incl. Trummy Young, tb/voc (1,3); Abe Baker, as?; Ray Eckstrand, as/bs; Herbie Fields, as/ts; Nick Calazza, ts; Stan Webb, ts; Bill Rowland, p; Bill de Arango, g (solo in 4); The Holidays, voc (2).


3 May 1946, New York:

1  [H-1935]  *The Jeep Is Jumpin'* (Ellington/Hodges)
2  [H-1936]  *I Got It Bad And That Ain't Good* (Ellington / P.F. Webster)
3  [H-1937]  *Dark Corners* (Webster)
4  [H-1938]  *Blues Mr. Brim* (Webster)

*Bill De Arango Sextet:* Leonard Graham [Idrees Sulieman], tp; Ben Webster, ts; Tony Scott, cl; Argonne Thornton [Sadik Hakim], p; Bill De Arango, g (solo in 1-4); John Simmons, b; Sid Catlett, dr.


15 May 1946, New York:

1  [H-1939]  *Frog And Mule* (Webster)
2  [H-1940]  *Spang* (Webster)
3  [H-1941]  *Doctor Keets* (Webster)
4  [H-1942]  *Park And Tilford Blues* (Webster)

*Ben Webster Quintet:* Ben Webster, ts; Al Haig, p; Bill De Arango, g (solo in 1-4); John Simmons, b; Sid Catlett, dr.

1-4: LP-Reissue Brunswick BL 54016.
1/2: LP-Reissue (1975) *The Big Three – Coleman Hawkins, Lester Young, And Ben Webster*, Bob Thiele Music BBM 1-1121;
1 [H-1919] Surgery (Davis)
2 [H-1920] Lockjaw (Davis)
3 [H-1921] Afternoon In A Doghouse (Davis)
4 [H-1922] Athlete's Foot (Davis)

Eddie Davis & Quintet: Eddie Davis, ts; Argonne Thornton [Sadik Hakim], p; Bill De Arango, g (solo in 1-4); Gene Ramey, b; Denzil Best, dr.

2/3: Haven 800; 1/4: Haven 801.

8 June 1946, New York:
1 [845] Goin' Back To Washington
2 [846] Did You Ever Set To Thinkin'
3 [847] Suzie Bee
4 [848] I Ain't Gonna Marry

Bill De Arango And His Orchestra: Leonard Graham [Idrees Sulieman], tp; Tony Scott, cl; Ben Webster, ts; Al Haig, p; Bill De Arango, g (?); John Simmons, b; Sidney Catlett, dr.
1/3: Signature 28127; 2/4: Signature 28128.

26 March 1947, New York:
1 [NSC-236-1] Synthesis (Ventura) MT
2 [NSC-236-2] Synthesis (Ventura) CT
3 [NSC-237] Soothe Me (Ventura)
4 [NSC-238] Blue Champagne (Watts/Ryerson/Eaton)
5 [NSC-239-1] Stop'n'Go (Ventura) MT
6 [NSC-239-2] Stop'n'Go (Ventura) CT

Charlie Ventura And His Sextet: Charlie Shavers, tp; Bill Harris, tb; Charlie Ventura, ss/ts; Ralph Burns, p; Bill De Arango, g (solo in 3,5,6); Chubby Jackson, b; Dave Tough, dr; Buddy Stewart, voc (1-3).

5 April 1947, Carnegie Hall, New York:

1 Characteristically B.H. (Harris)
2 Medley: Lover, Come Back To Me (Romberg/Hammerstein II)
   (I Don't Stand) A Ghost Of A Chance (With You) (Young/Washington)
   Just You, Just Me (Greer/Kloge)

Charlie Ventura And His Sextet: Charlie Shavers, tp (2); Bill Harris, tb; Charlie Ventura, ts; Ralph Burns, p; Bill
De Arango, g; Dillon 'Curly' Russell, b; Dave Tough (1), Sid Catlett (2), dr.

1-2: LP *Charlie Ventura’s Carnegie Hall Concert*, Columbia C033 CX 10050; Norgran Rec. MGN-1041 (also Phoenix and Verve); *Charlie Ventura – Carnegie Hall Concert*, Verve (Japan) 23MJ-3397  
[titles named: 1 Characteristically B.H., 2 Summertime; 3 Sid Flips His Lid; 4 Ralph Burns Up; 5 I Don’t Stand A Ghost Of A Chance; 6 Just You Just Me; Bill de Arango not on 2 and 3]


1953:

1 *De Arango* (De Arango/Gibbs)

Terry Gibbs Septet: Terry Gibbs, vib; Ray Abrams, ts; Don Elliot, mellophone; Claude Noel, p; Kenny O'Brien, b; Sid Bulkin, dr.

1: LP (1953) *Various Artists – Jazztime U.S.A. Volume 2*, Brunswick BL 54001 (1956: Vogue Coral LVA 9014);  
LP (1957) *Various Artists – Concert Jazz*, Brunswick BL 54027.

March 1954, New York:

1 *Alone Together* (Dietz/Schwartz)  
2 *Gone With The Wind* (Magidson/Wrubel)  
3 *All God's Children Got Rhythm* (Kaper/Jurman/Kahn)  
4 *The Nearness Of You* (Carmichael/Washington)  
5 *The Gipsy In My Soul* (Boland/Jaffe)  
6 *Dancing On The Ceiling* (Rodgers/Hart)  
7 *Summertime* (Gershwin/Heyward)  
8 *These Foolish Things* (Strachey/Link/Marvell)

Bill de Arango, g; Johnny Williams, p; Teddy Kotick, b; Art Mardigan, dr.


unconfirmed

?1954?

Bill De Arango, g; ??; Art Mardigan, dr.

LP (1954) *renditions – de arango and art mardigan*, EmArcy ?10086?.

unconfirmed

?1955?

Bill De Arango, g; Johnny Williams, p; ??.
EP/LP (?) Bill De Arango - Johnny Williams Trio – Williams Tell, Keynote; Reissue (?) Phonogram (Japan) BT-2016.

1968, Cleveland:
? 6 Tracks ?
Henry Tree (Rock Band): Leroy Markish, g, voc; Bill DeArango, g (not mentioned, but featured on 3 tracks), manager; Charles McLaughlin, b; Carmen Castaldi, dr.

13 March or 14 April 1978, New York:
1 Crepescule: Suite For Monk (arranged by Anthony Davis)
   a Evidence (Monk)
   b Crepescule With Nellie (Monk)
   c Epistrophy (Monk/Clarke)
Barry Altschul: Arthur Blythe, as; Ray Anderson, tb; Bill DeArango, g; Anthony Davis, p/arr; Brian Smith, b; Barry Altschul, dr.
1: LP (1978) Barry Altschul - Another Time/Another Place, Muse Records MR 5176.

September 1981, New York:
1 Spacewalker (Werner)
2 Improv (Werner)
3 Bosstown (Lovano)
4 Free Agent (Werner)
5 Indian Hill Rd. (Werner)
6 Ballad For Paul Motian (Werner)
Kenny Werner Sextet: Joe Lovano, ts/fl/musette; Billy Drewes, ts/ss/as; Ken [Kenny] Werner, p; Bill De'Arrango, g (except 4); Ratso [Ratzo] Harris, b; Tom Rainey, dr.
1-6: LP (1982) Ken Werner Sextett – 298 Bridge Street, amf records (Germany) AMF 1015.

Approx. 1983, Beachwood, Ohio:
1 Ragarango
Jamey Haddad: Joe Lovano, Billy Drewes, reeds; Kenny Werner, p; Bill DeArango, g; Marc Johnson, b; Jamey Haddad, dr/perc; Ramnad V. Raghavan, hand dr.
1/2 April 1993, New York:

1. *Anything Went* (DeArango/Lovano/Schuller/Schuller)
2. *Duet #1* (DeArango/Lovano)
3. *Bye Bye Blackbird* (Dixon/Henderson)
4. *What Is This Thing Called Speak Low* Medley: a) *What Is This Thing Called Love* (Porter)  
   b) *Speak Low* (Weill/Nash)
5. *Duet #2* (DeArango/Lovano)
6. *Cherokee* (Noble)
7. *At Miss Fears* (DeArango/Schuller/Schuller)
8. *Duet #3* (DeArango/Lovano)
9. *Free Rango* (DeArango/Lovano/Schuller/Schuller)
10. *Song For D* (Ed Schuller)
11. *Duet #4* (DeArango/Lovano)

Bill DeArango, g; Joe Lovano, ts (1-2, 4-5, 8-9, 11); Ed Schuller, b (1, 3-4, 6-7, 9-10); George Schuller, dr (1, 3-4, 6-7, 9-10).