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50 ESSENTIAL CHICAGO EXPERIENCES

Browse Jazz and Soul Records at Dusty Groove

BY MARK BAZER

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Kamil Krzaczyński/AFP via Getty Images

We're several years into the vinyl resurgence, and these days every city can boast at least one quality record store. But nowhere else has a place like [Dusty Groove](#). Jazz and soul (and all its offshoots, from neo-soul to deep funk) take up the most real estate, with new releases, reissues, and stacks of used vinyl and CDs coming in

daily. When you visit Dusty Groove, you're there not just to buy music but to get an education in music history — in everything from obscure Sun Ra sessions to '60s and '70s bossa nova out of Brazil. Browsing Dusty Groove's online store, where the shop's proprietors sing the praises of their favorite records in inimitable style, can be plenty entertaining (and sometimes even necessary: Coveted records, like old Blue Note classics, can sell out minutes after they're put up for sale). But the true Dusty experience is found at the well-organized brick-and-mortar store, where, to borrow from the oft-stocked R&B act Sister Sledge, you can easily spend the better part of an afternoon "lost in music." *1120 N. Ashland Ave., East Ukrainian Village*