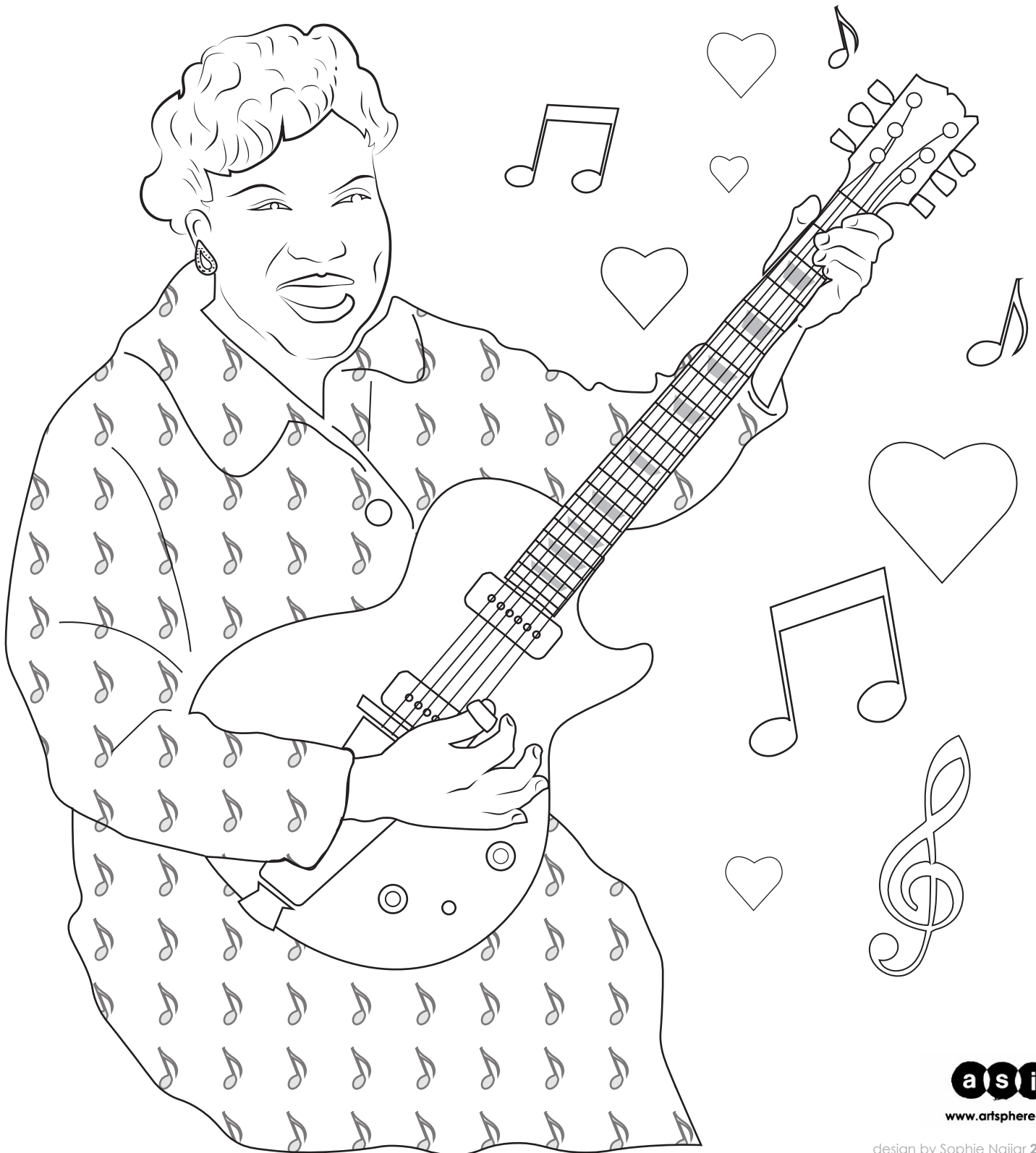


## **Sister Rosetta Tharpe: The Godmother of Rock and Roll**

Sister Rosetta Tharpe (1915-1973) was an important musician who pioneered early styles of rock, rhythm & blues, and pop gospel music. She played the electric guitar, wrote songs, sang, and performed her music all across the United States and Europe. Originally from Arkansas, she lived the last years of her life in Philadelphia. Today, you can visit the historical marker outside her home in the Yorktown neighborhood of North Philadelphia.



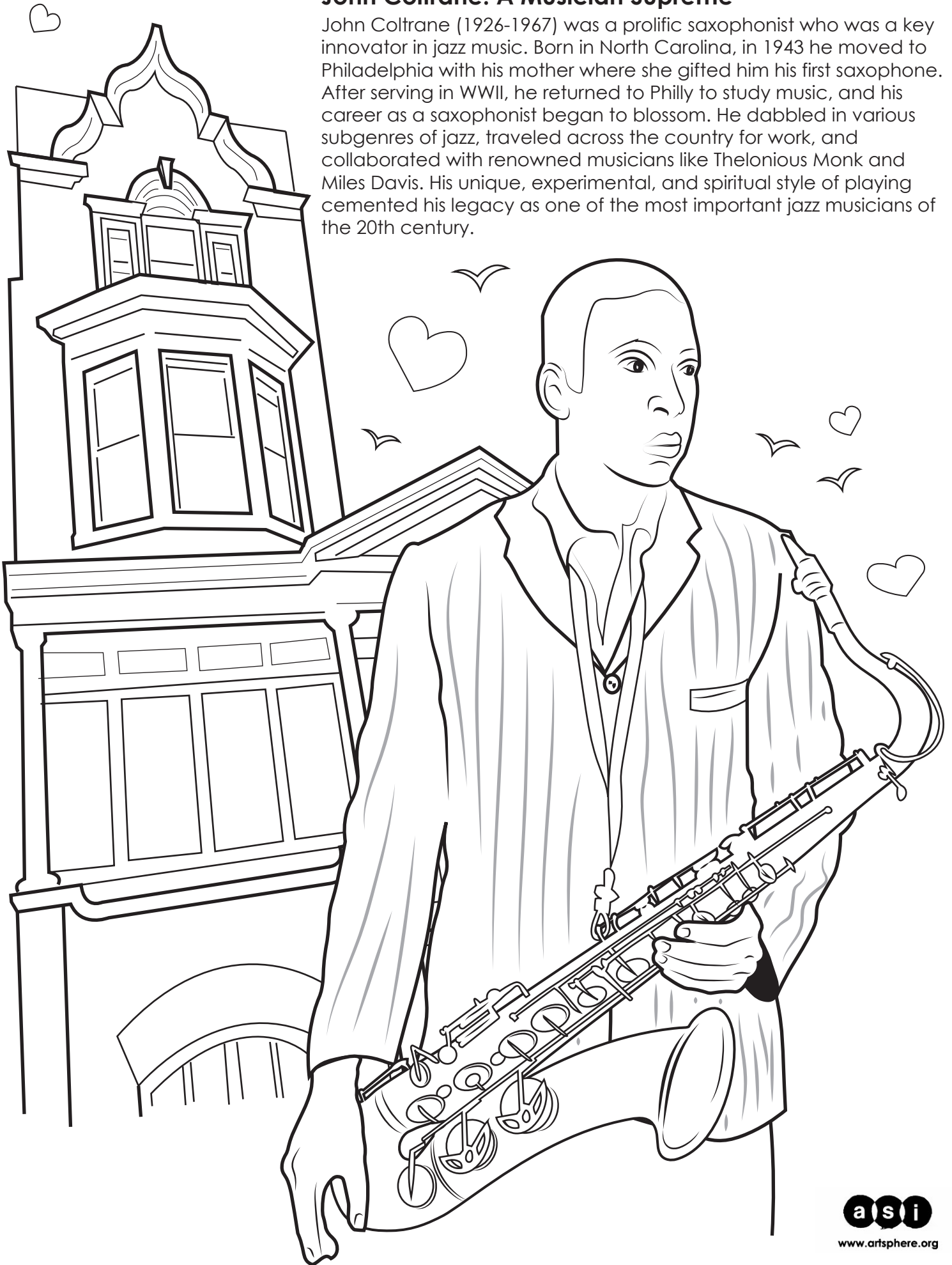
## Marian Anderson: Classical Singer, Trailblazer, Icon

Marian Anderson (1897-1993) navigated discrimination and adversity to become one of the most celebrated musicians from Philadelphia. She learned to sing at an early age with her church choir at the Union Baptist Church in South Philly. She performed across the United States and Europe, played for troops during World War II, and gave benefit concerts to support the 1960s civil rights movement. In 1955, she became the first black person to perform at the Metropolitan Opera in New York City. She lived a long and remarkable life, full of musical, philanthropic, and civic achievements.



## John Coltrane: A Musician Supreme

John Coltrane (1926-1967) was a prolific saxophonist who was a key innovator in jazz music. Born in North Carolina, in 1943 he moved to Philadelphia with his mother where she gifted him his first saxophone. After serving in WWII, he returned to Philly to study music, and his career as a saxophonist began to blossom. He dabbled in various subgenres of jazz, traveled across the country for work, and collaborated with renowned musicians like Thelonious Monk and Miles Davis. His unique, experimental, and spiritual style of playing cemented his legacy as one of the most important jazz musicians of the 20th century.



## Questlove: A Musical Renaissance Man with Roots in Philly

Questlove, (born Ahmir Khalib Thompson, 1971), is a musician, composer, and producer. He is best known for his work as a drummer in the hip hop band, The Roots. The Roots trace back to Thompson's teenage years as a student at the Philadelphia High School for the Creative and Performing Arts, where he met future Roots collaborator Tariq "Black Thought" Trotter. The Roots attained critical and commercial success in the late 90s, and now operates as the in-house band for The Tonight Show.

Questlove is also a distinguished producer. His credits include recordings by Jay-Z, John Legend, Elvis Costello, as well as the musical Hamilton. He returns to Philly every year for the popular Roots Picnic music festival.

