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the duke at newport



duke ellington and his orchestra

take the "a" train
sophisticated lady
I got it bad and
that ain't good
jeep's blues



DAVID H



PHILIPS

Minigroove 45



429 302 BE



AA 429 302.1 B
(Side 1)

THE DUKE AT NEWPORT

TAKE THE "A" TRAIN (Strayhorn)
SOPHISTICATED LADY (Parish/Mills/Ellington)

DUKE ELLINGTON
and his Orchestra



PHILIPS

Minigroove 45



429 302 BE



AA 429 302.2 B
(Side 2)

THE DUKE AT NEWPORT

I GOT IT BAD AND THAT AIN'T GOOD (Webster/Ellington)
JEEP'S BLUES (Ellington/Hodges)

DUKE ELLINGTON
and his Orchestra



The Duke at Newport

Side 1:

Take The "A" Train
Sophisticated Lady

Side 2:

I Got It Bad And That Ain't Good
Jeep's Blues

DUKE ELLINGTON and his Orchestra

The American Jazz Festival held at Newport, Rhode Island during the days of 5, 6, 7 and 8th July, 1956 was remarkable for many things, not least of which were some truly astonishing and breathtaking performances by the U.S.A.'s top jazz artists. On Philips records B 07182 L and B 07206/7/8 L live recordings of the performances by Louis Armstrong, Buck Clayton, Eddie Condon, Duke Ellington, Dave Brubeck and J. J. Johnson with Kai Winding can be heard. This is truly one of the three or four greatest jazz events in the history of recording, another being the famous Benny Goodman Carnegie Hall Jazz Concert, also on Philips B 07000/1 L. Without any doubt the atmosphere of live recording lends that something "extra" to jazz on disc, a fact much appreciated by the discerning jazz public as witness the phenomenal demand for such records. It is therefore a privilege to make available on this handy, compact EP, four of the Duke Ellington performances at Newport. Without disrespect to any of his distinguished colleagues at Newport, it is now generally agreed that the Duke's contribution was the greatest. That, in a jazz career of over thirty years duration, is a staggering fact in itself which, should the reader doubt our words, can be proved by just spinning B 07182 L, which includes the now legendary rendition of "Diminuendo and Crescendo in

Blue". Our present choice highlights four much shorter, but nevertheless impressive, items.

The Duke and his men get away to a flying start with an old favourite of theirs, their theme in fact, "Take The "A" Train". Billy Strayhorn's number is given a fine swinging outing, and the Duke credits the soloists at the end of the performance. Fans might care to compare this version with an earlier effort of the Duke's on Philips 429 004 BE, a worthwhile disc which also contains "The Mooche". Next comes that Ellington standard, the great man's own original, "Sophisticated Lady". Here it is given complete with verse and the spotlight is on Harry Carney with the baritone-sax, an instrument which owes its social acceptance to his lyrical and persuasive playing over the years. Again comparison will prove fruitful, for an earlier Duke registration can be heard on Philips 429 020 BE, which also boasts "Mood Indigo" and "Solitude", a real Ellington showcase. Turning the disc we find "I Got It Bad and That Ain't Good" from the early-forties period of Ellingtonia, and here is featured the fabulous alto sax of Johnny Hodges. Our session winds up with "Jeep's Blues", an encore for Mr. Hodges and a real top number in any Ellington collection.

In the course of our remarks we have referred to other of the Duke's discs which are the pride of our jazz catalogue. Truly this ever versatile musician, whose influence has been so widespread, is still at the height of his powers, and at the top of the jazz tree. With the aid of his skilled sidemen, it is likely to stay that way for many years to come. All the items on this disc were recorded on 6 and 7th July, with the following line-up: Willie Cook, Roy Nance, Clark Terry, Cat Anderson (trumpets); John Sanders, Quentin Jackson, Britt Woodman (trombones); Russell Procope, Johnny Hodges (alto saxes); Paul Gonzales, Jimmy Hamilton (tenor saxes); Harry Carney (baritone sax); Duke Ellington (piano); Jimmy Woode (bass); Sam Woodyard (drums).

The Newport Jazz Festival on Philips Minigroove 33 $\frac{1}{3}$:



LOUIS ARMSTRONG AND
EDDIE CONDON
AT NEWPORT

B 07206 L



DAVE BRUBECK AND
JAY AND KAI
AT NEWPORT

B 07207 L



ELLINGTON AT NEWPORT

B 07182 L



DUKE ELLINGTON AND
BUCK CLAYTON
AT NEWPORT

B 07208 L

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