



THE DUKE ELLINGTON ORCHESTRA

After Ellington's celebrated comeback in 1956 at the Newport Jazz Festival, his orchestra, for the following decade, enjoyed countless spectacular European performances around 1963 in Paris and near the end of the decade on European tour - still complete with glittering cast. Well, he "borrowed" Benny Bailey and an outstanding Swedish trombone player by the name of Ake Persson, but his well-known trademark, his "sound" had managed to remain intact with Cootie Williams and Cat Anderson as well as the veteran star-studded trio, Hodges / Carney / Gonsalves playing with. The Duke also invited organist Wild Bill Davis as guest He had recorded his famous "New Orleans Suite" in 1970 with Davis and similarly-cast band. The recipe for Ellington's enormous success and the reason why it is so highly regarded these days has always been Ellington's own "all time hits" from his own quill or from Billy Strayhorn's self-explanatory arrangements, and not to mention the soloists whose personal stylistics and tone just make the pudding thicker.

That also goes for the music on this CD. The swingingly supple ensemble work in "Rockin' In Rhythm", Paul Gonsalves' solo performance in his parade piece "Diminuendo And Crescendo In Blue" (Newport Jazz Festival, 1956), and/or again, the unforgettable elegance Johnny Hodges brings to this CD in his last live performance is all very well worth hearing.

One could argue about the extent to which the organ really passes with an orchestral timbre. But one thing is sure, Ellington has done a tasteful job of setting the electronic stops and keys thereby avoiding overload of the collective timbre (...something like organised color sponge.) For public concerts the fact still stands that Wild Bill Davis was a popular name even in the sixties, and is also known to have done much toward popularizing the instrument in the seventies.

APRIL IN PARIS

FEAT. WILD BILL DAVIS

Cootie Williams trumpet
Cat Anderson trumpet
Benny Bailey trumpet
Lawrence Brown trombone
Ake Persson trombone
Nelson Williams trombone
Russell Procope alto saxophone, clarinet
Johnny Hodges alto saxophone
Norris Turney alto saxophone, flute
Paul Gonsalves tenor saxophone
Harry Carney baritone saxophone, clarinet
Duke Ellington piano
Wild Bill Davis organ
Leonard Gaskin bass
Rufus Jones drums

WW 2406

- 1 Rockin' In Rhythm 5:57**
ELLINGTON/CARNEY
- 2 Four-Thirty Blues 5:01**
ELLINGTON
- 3 Take The A-Train 5:42**
STRAYHORN
- 4 Jam With Paul 3:53**
ELLINGTON
- 5 Satin Doll 5:42**
ELLINGTON/STRAYHORN
- 6 April In Paris 4:31**
HARBURG/DUKE
- 7 El Gato 4:09**
ELLINGTON
- 8 Don't Get Around Much Anymore 2:50**
ELLINGTON
- 9 Caravan 1:12**
ELLINGTON
- 10 Mood Indigo 3:42**
ELLINGTON/MILLS/BIGARD
- 11 Passion Flower 5:17**
STRAYHORN
- 12 Jive Stomp 5:30**
ELLINGTON
- 13 Diminuendo And Crescendo In Blue 10:45**
ELLINGTON

THE DUKE ELLINGTON ORCHESTRA | APRIL IN PARIS WW 2406

WEST
WIND
2406

Recorded Live 1969 published by Mills Music Inc. (1, 12), Tempo Music Inc. (2, 3, 5, 11), H&M Inc. (6),
Robbins Music Corp. (8), American Academy of Music Inc. (9, 13), Gotham Music Service Inc. (10),
photo by Jay Maisel p + c. 1992 by West Wind, Made In Germany

- 1 **Rockin' In Rhythm** Cootie Williams trumpet
- 2 **Four-Thirty Blues** Cat Anderson trumpet
- 3 **Take The A-Train** Benny Bailey trumpet
- 4 **Jam With Paul** Lawrence Brown trombone
- 5 **Satin Doll** Ake Persson trombone
- 6 **April In Paris** Nelson Williams trombone
- 7 **El Gato** Russell Procope alto saxophone, clarinet
- 8 **Don't Get Around
Much Anymore** Johnny Hodges alto saxophone
Norris Turney alto saxophone, flute
- 9 **Caravan** Paul Gonsalves tenor saxophone
- 10 **Mood Indigo** Harry Carney baritone saxophone, clarinet
- 11 **Passion Flower** Duke Ellington piano
- 12 **Jive Stomp** Wild Bill Davis organ
- 13 **Diminuendo And
Crescendo In Blue** Leonard Gaskin bass
Rufus Jones drums



U.S.G. AAD (L) 07823 GEMA

THE DUKE ELLINGTON ORCHESTRA | APRIL IN PARIS WW 2406