

JAZZ IN THE

A Tribute to
DUKE ELLINGTON

Berklee
school of music

In a recent statement by my father, the piano player, he remarked that "one should never compete with perfection" and, as usual, along comes the exception to prove the rule — "A Tribute to Duke Ellington". One must become as near perfect as possible in order to contribute to this wonderful world of jazz and from the records on this record, it's obvious that this is what Berklee strives for.

I feel a real kinship with the students here because my own compositions "Things Ain't What They Used To Be" and, especially, "Money" produced my diploma from the great one, Duke Ellington, just as these performances will earn credit for the students of Berklee at a comparable point in their careers.

I know that "Take the 'A' Train" and those other tunes have had many treatments in many fields, but this "A" Train" does as hard as any of them and I'm actually glad to be heard.

Mercer Ellington

CLASSROOM

BERKLEE RECORDS, BOSTON, MASS.

VOLUME VIII

**JAZZ
in the
CLASSROOM
VOL. 8**

Berklee

A Tribute To Duke Ellington

PUBLISHER:
TEMPO MUSIC
(ASCAP)

BLP-8A
SA-318

XTV 94646

1. UPPER MANHATTAN MEDICAL GROUP (B. Strayhorn) 4:23
2. FALLING LIKE A RAINDROP (D. Ellington) 4:20
3. BLUE SERGE (M. Ellington) 3:32
4. THINGS AIN'T WHAT THEY USED TO BE (M. Ellington) 4:35
5. STAR CROSSED LOVERS (D. Ellington-B. Strayhorn) 4:37
6. SATIN DOLL (D. Ellington-B. Strayhorn) 4:18

Conducted By
HERB POMEROY

LONG PLAYING
33 $\frac{1}{3}$
MICROGROOVE

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1. RAIN CHECK (B. Strayhorn) 3:00
2. REFLECTIONS IN 'D' (D. Ellington) 4:03
3. A TONE PARALLEL TO HARLEM (excerpts) (M. Ellington) 4:15
4. THE GIRL IN MY DREAMS TRIES TO LOOK LIKE YOU
(M. Ellington) 3:47
5. EBONY (M. Ellington) 3:31
6. TAKE THE 'A' TRAIN (B. Strayhorn) 2:55

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A TRIBUTE TO DUKE ELLINGTON

SIDE ONE

Upper Manhattan Medical Group	5:02
B. Strayhorn	4:23
Falling Like A Raindrop	4:30
D. Ellington	4:23
Blue Serge (M. Ellington)	4:35
Things Ain't What They Used to Be	4:35
M. Ellington	4:37
Just Got Married	4:37
D. Ellington - B. Strayhorn	4:38
Samurai	4:38
D. Ellington - B. Strayhorn	4:38

UPPER MANHATTAN MEDICAL GROUP

Upper Manhattan Medical Group, one of Billy Strayhorn's best units, is arranged by M. Ellington. The idea of Duke Warrick is featured throughout and is completely integrated in the fabric of the score, which is both extremely original and creative. Harder than any a group had about the writing and the solo (which I would estimate 100 in this), I felt not free only to learn, and found more slowly in that, so the arrangement that is so very much more than the usual arrangements one may expect to be. It can and will speak for itself.

BEILING LIKE A RAINDROP

Beiling Like a Raindrop is arranged by Carl Wells and is a showcase for the solo of Duke Warrick. It starts out as a very slow piece which is more finished than a group's swinging tempo. Then the solo takes over and soon carries the tempo again to a very fast and exciting pace which Warrick has time to stretch out on a few choruses of blues and play a truly emotional solo before the tempo is led to end for the cool blues and ending.

BLUE SERGE

Blue Serge is scored for a small band of three brass, three reeds, and two rhythm, featuring alternately Sydney Foster on trumpet, Bob Douglas on piano, Mike Gibbs on trombone, and Duke Warrick on alto. Eric Fielding, the arranger, achieves with this unit group a very appealing style of the small group feeling with the background and accompaniment known of a big band.

THINGS AIN'T WHAT THEY USED TO BE

Things Ain't What They Used To Be is a Mark and average Ted Pace scored a just the way it should be, as a swinging blues. Solo by Duke Warrick in alto and Bud Shuford on bass.

STAR-CROSSED LOVERS

This very beautiful score comes from the Ellington solo book *Star-Crossed*, a tribute to Shakespeare, and is done in a way that will be called piano because of the very dramatic accompaniment by the British arranger Graham Collins. This solo is a piece of art in a constant mood individual lines and complimentary lines, and demands extensive delicate playing from everyone. The soloists are Mike Gibbs on trombone and Paul Warner on piano.

SAMURAI

This arrangement of the old Ellington standard is by Bill Strayhorn and features the famous solo of Duke Warrick and the piano of Duke Ellington. The background solo is so subtle as to be the best feature of this score which one must interpret with care but remarkable accuracy. The arrangement studies in detail with the high notes (especially on the bridge) after which the part is brought back down to an usual lighter swinging style used by the Ellington orchestra throughout the set.

Mark Foster, saxophone solo, woodwinds
Mike Harding, horn solo
Mike Gibbs, cover piano
Bud Shuford, recording supervision

SIDE TWO

Blue Serge (B. Strayhorn)	5:00
Reflections on "D"	4:43
D. Ellington	4:43
A Time For Us in Harlem	4:15
(arranged by D. Ellington)	4:15
The Get in My Dream Train to	4:47
Look Like You (M. Ellington)	4:47
Ebony (M. Ellington)	4:31
Take the "C" Train	4:33
(B. Strayhorn)	4:33

BLUE SERGE

Blue Serge, a relatively obscure score by Billy Strayhorn, is used by the arranger Mike Harding as a vehicle for the trombone of Mike Gibbs and the solo of Duke Warrick, and also tests the challenge of a difficult chord progression and the tempo adjustment, leaving in few solo in every way. The great treatment of the solo is enhanced by the best production and the fine tone feeling of the Alpha notes.

REFLECTIONS ON "D"

Reflections on "D" arranged by Mike Smith, is another very interesting piece of writing. It is featured on the French backgrounds and there are many very good saxophone and piano. Duke Warrick plays the beautiful blue solo and the average Mike Smith is on piano.

A TIME FOR US IN HARLEM

This arrangement for guitar probably takes more of Duke Ellington than any other track on this record. In his case, all the writing here (and indeed, almost all of music and writing) was a great deal of Ellington, but he could never find any other guitar in his band to play the beautiful, beautiful major tracks. The quality of the playing and the writing is of an equally high degree and consistently. This track is somewhat of a show, Duke Warrick's lead on sax and solo. Eric Fielding on trumpet and sax. One thing, the arrangement, on piano, Bud Shuford on bass, and Ted Fielding on drums.

THE GIRL IN MY DREAMS TRIES TO LOOK LIKE YOU

A Modern Ellington score from the album, *The Girl In My Dreams* is here arranged by Eric Fielding. The title is based on some beautiful chords for Duke solo by Charlie Owens and Duke Warrick. The mood of the arrangement is soft and sweet employing many unusual techniques using the mode with the modal blues.

EBONY

Ebony, a small group arrangement scored by Al Henry features Bud Shuford, trumpet, Duke Warrick, alto. Al Henry plays, Lester Harlan, bass, and Ted Pace, drums. Emphasizing a late Charles Mingus work of the arrangement and allowing the horns and the piano simple playing, this track is very exciting.

TAKE THE "C" TRAIN

This arrangement of the Strayhorn standard is by Mike Harding and utilizes the vocal lines and "cut chorus" and with slightly different harmony than creating the effect of call and response. The solo solo by Charlie Owens and the later solo by Alex Hill, both of whom are very able. Their solo space is good advantage, and returns later to the arrangement to form "Take" with the ensemble. This is a capitalization to the first chorus followed by a nice ending of the solo and the "cut chorus" used as an ending.

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Booklet Press Publications
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JAZZ IN THE CLASSROOM VOLUME VIII

Student Personnel

ANTHONY BAKER, alto, horn
Anchored, New Zealand
FRED BUTLER, saxophone, clarinet, flute, bassoon
Waltham, Nova Scotia, Canada

JIM CASTLE, trumpet
Worcester, Rhode Island

CLARENCE COLLIER, arranger
Burlington, England

STEVE COLE, woodwinds
Columbus, North Carolina

BOB DEAGAN, piano
Scranton, Pennsylvania

STEVE DEVEREUX, bass woodwinds
N. Virginia, Missouri

ALEX ELIN, saxophone
Chicago, Kentucky

AL FLETCHER, piano, arranger
Park Ridge, Illinois

EMIN JINDOGLU, arranger
Istanbul, Turkey

DALE FRANK, trumpet
Great Falls, Missouri

MILT FREDERIC, trumpet, arranger
Louisville, Kentucky

HENRY FRIEDMAN, horn, clarinet, arranger
Berkeley, California

MIKE GIBBS, woodwinds
St. Elizabeth, Alaska

LARRY GIBBS, trumpet
St. Petersburg, New Jersey

LENNY HARLOW, bass
Jamaica, New Jersey

WELAND GILBERT, trumpet
Northville, Virginia

BOB GREENE, bass
Caldwell, Connecticut

KAREE McDONNELL, woodwinds
Birmingham, Pennsylvania

MIKE McEVYRE, horn - flutes
Washington, Connecticut

WES NICHOLAS, trumpet
Lynchburg, New York

CHARLES OWENS, alto, alto sax
Newburgh, New York

TED PEASE, drums, arranger
Baltimore, New York

LENNY PERLA, piano, arranger
Woodlawn Lake, New Jersey

NEP PUTTYER, trumpet, flutes, horn
Boulder, Colorado

MIKE RENDINE, piano, arranger
Allentown, Pennsylvania

MIKE RINDI, piano
Pittsburgh, Rhode Island

RAEY ROSE, woodwinds
Rapid City, South Dakota

TED RAVIENE, horn
E. Chicago, Indiana

BOB THIEL, bass
Haverhill, New York

YASUO WATANABE, alto, bass
Tokyo, Japan

FRED WINNER, horn, drums
Waco, Pennsylvania