



THE CHRONICAL



DUKE ELLINGTON  
AND HIS ORCHESTRA  
1931 - 1932

WITH ARTHUR WHETSOL, COOTIE WILLIAMS, TRICKY SAM,  
LAWRENCE BROWN, BARNEY BIGARD, JOHNNY HODGES,  
WELLMAN BRAUD, IVIE ANDERSON...

CLASSICS

## DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA 1931-1932

- |           |  |          |      |           |  |          |      |
|-----------|--|----------|------|-----------|--|----------|------|
| <b>1</b>  | <b>IS THAT RELIGION?</b> (Pinkard-Parish)<br>(E-35941-A)   | 01-20-31 | 2:23 | <b>14</b> | <b>EAST ST. LOUIS TOODLE-OO</b> (Ellington-Miley) / <b>LOTS O' FINGERS</b><br>(Ellington) / <b>BLACK AND TAN FANTASY</b> (Ellington-Miley) (71836-2) | 02-09-32 | 7:31 |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>CREOLE RHAPSODY - PART I</b> (Ellington)<br>(68231-2)   | 06-11-31 | 4:00 | <b>15</b> | <b>DINAH</b> (Lewis-Young-Akst)<br>(71838-1)   | 02-09-32 | 2:53 |
| <b>3</b>  | <b>CREOLE RHAPSODY - PART II</b> (Ellington)<br>(68233-3)  | 06-11-31 | 4:21 | <b>16</b> | <b>BUGLE CALL RAG</b> (Pettis-Schoebel-Meyers)<br>(71839-1)  | 02-09-32 | 3:02 |
| <b>4</b>  | <b>LIMEHOUSE BLUES</b> (Braham-Furber)<br>(68237-1)  | 06-16-31 | 3:06 | <b>17</b> | <b>ST. LOUIS BLUES</b> (Handy)<br>(BX-11263-A)   | 02-11-32 | 4:28 |
| <b>5</b>  | <b>ECHOES OF THE JUNGLE</b> (Williams-Mills)<br>(68238-1)  | 06-16-31 | 3:25 | <b>18</b> | <b>CREOLE LOVE CALL</b> (Ellington)<br>(BX-11264-A)  | 02-11-32 | 4:07 |
| <b>6</b>  | <b>IT'S GLORY</b> (Ellington)<br>(68239-1)   | 06-17-31 | 3:07 | <b>19</b> | <b>ROSE ROOM</b> (Williams-Hickman)<br>(B-11265-A)   | 02-11-32 | 3:00 |
| <b>7</b>  | <b>THE MYSTERY SONG</b> (Ellington-Mills)<br>(68240-1)   | 06-17-31 | 3:11 |           |  |          |      |
| <b>8</b>  | <b>MOON OVER DIXIE</b> (Koehler-Ellington-Mills)<br>(B-11200-A)  | 02-02-32 | 2:57 |           |  |          |      |
| <b>9</b>  | <b>IT DON'T MEAN A THING (IF IT AIN'T GOT THAT SWING)</b><br>(B-11204-A) (Ellington)   | 02-02-32 | 3:08 |           |  |          |      |
| <b>10</b> | <b>LAZY RHAPSODY</b> (Ellington)<br>(B-11205-A)  | 02-02-32 | 3:14 |           |  |          |      |
| <b>11</b> | <b>MOOD INDIGO</b> (Ellington-Bigard-Mills) / <b>HOT AND BOTHERED</b><br>(Ellington) / <b>CREOLE LOVE CALL</b> (Ellington-Miley-Jackson) (71812-2) | 02-03-32 | 7:45 |           |  |          |      |
| <b>12</b> | <b>BLUE TUNE</b> (Ellington)<br>(B-11223-A)  | 02-04-32 | 3:08 |           |  |          |      |
| <b>13</b> | <b>BABY, WHEN YOU AIN'T THERE</b> (Ellington)<br>(B-11224-A)   | 02-04-32 | 2:41 |           |  |          |      |

Photo from the Max Jones collection.

## THE CLASSICS CHRONOLOGICAL SERIES

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 599 : JELLY-ROLL MORTON 1924-1926  
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 601 : BILLIE HOLIDAY 1939-40  
 602 : COLEMAN HAWKINS 1934-37  
 603 : JOHNNY DODDS 1927  
 604 : JIMMIE NOONE 1923-28  
 605 : DUKE ELLINGTON 1930-31  
 606 : LUIS RUSSELL 1930-31  
 607 : KING OLIVER 1928-30  
 608 : SIDNEY BECHET 1938-40  
 609 : MCKINNEY'S COTTON PICKERS 1928-29  
 610 : FLETCHER HENDERSON 1925-26  
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 624 : LIONEL HAMPTON 1940-41...

Classics 500 to 522 are available.

CLASSICS 616

## DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA 1931-1932

**D**uke Ellington's residency at the Cotton Club ended in February 1931. Although Duke and the band had travelled before, to Hollywood in 1930 for example, they toured more frequently during 1931, including another trip to the West Coast. In early 1932, they began an extended engagement at The Paramount in New York, before heading for California for the third time. These numerous trips partly explain the reduced number of recording-sessions during this period.

Edward Kennedy "Duke" Ellington was born in Washington, D.C., on April 29, 1899. While still at high school, he began playing in his native city. He soon organized his first little group, "The Duke's Serenaders", including Otto Hardwick and Arthur Whetsol, both of whom were to remain with him for many years. Duke Ellington first came to New-York in 1923 with "The Washingtonians", then still led by Elmer Snowden. A year later, the highly ambitious Duke Ellington took over the group and worked with it successfully at the "Kentucky Club" until 1927. The developing band's most successful engagement, at the "Cotton Club", lasted until 1931, when the fledgling Cab Calloway Orchestra took over their spot. Duke Ellington's first tour to England, Scotland and France in 1933 proved an immense personal and musical triumph. During the thirties, the Duke and his Orchestra travelled extensively in the United States, and their second visit to Europe six months before the outbreak of war enabled many of their admirers to hear the band in the flesh. Many agree that by 1940 the orchestra had reached its artistic peak. The band's first Carnegie Hall concert in January 1943 was followed by innumerable appearances at the world's most famous theatres. Duke Ellington was fortunately able to continue his regular tours around the globe until a short time before his death on May 24, 1974 - one month after celebrating his 75th birthday.

Our tenth volume of the complete recordings of Duke Ellington and his Orchestra opens with a remaining cut from their final studio-sessions whilst at the Cotton Club. The extended "Creole Rhapsody" was first recorded in January of the same year - see Classics 605 for further information. The two medleys from February 1932 must be among the most curious recordings in the Ellington' discography; two microphones were used in order to cut two discs, hence capturing the music from slightly different angles. Ingenious collectors recently discovered that when both discs were played simultaneously, this resulted in the first stereo-records ever made! The present versions, however, come from the conventional records. These performances are excellent - rarely did Ellington play hot piano as on "Lots Of Fingers", which separates the two favourites on the second medley. A somewhat pretentious arrangement of "St. Louis Blues" includes a vocal by Bing Crosby, who had already recorded with Ellington on the West Coast in 1930. To be continued...

Anatol Schenker, October 1991.

CLASSICS 616

**DISCOGRAPHY DUKE ELLINGTON 1931-1932**

**EARL JACKSON AND HIS MUSICAL CHAMPIONS:** Duke Ellington-p-a dir. Arthur Whetsol-Freddy Jenkins-Cootie Williams-t/joe "Tricky Sam" Nanton-tb/Juan Tizol-vtb/johnny Hodges-cl-ss-as/Harry Carney-cl-as-bar/Barney Bigard-cl-ts/Fred Guy-bj-g/Wellman Braud-sb/Sonny Greer-d/Frank Marvin-v.

E-35941-A Is That Religion? - vFM  
New York, January 20, 1931.  
Melotone M-12080

**DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA:** omit Marvin, others as before.

68231-2 Creole Rhapsody - Part 1  
68233-3 Creole Rhapsody - Part 2  
New York, N. J., June 11, 1931.  
Victor 36049  
Victor 36049

**DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA:** same.

68237-1 Limehouse Blues  
68238-1 Echoes Of The Jungle  
Camden, N. J., June 16, 1931.  
Victor 22743  
Victor 22743

**DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA:** same.

68239-1 It's Glory  
68240-1 The Mystery Song  
Camden, N. J., June 17, 1931.  
Victor 22791  
Victor 22800

**DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA:** Lawrence Brown-tb added; Ivie Anderson-Cootie Williams-Sonny Greer-v.

B-11200-A Moon Over Dixie - vSG  
B-11204-A It Don't Mean A Thing (If It Ain't Got That Swing) - v1A  
B-11205-A Lazy Rhapsody - vCW  
New York, February 2, 1932.  
Brunswick 6317  
Brunswick 6265  
Brunswick 6288

**DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA:** same.

71812-2 Mood Indigo/Hot And Bothered/Creole Love Call  
New York, February 3, 1932.  
Victor L-16006 (LP)

**DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS FAMOUS ORCHESTRA:** As last.

B-11223-A Blue Tune  
B-11224-A Baby, When You Ain't There - vCW  
New York, February 4, 1932.  
Brunswick 6288  
Brunswick 6317

**DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS FAMOUS ORCHESTRA:** same.

71836-2 East St. Louis Toodle-Oo/Lots O' Fingers/Black And Tan Fantasy  
71838-1 Dinah - v1A-SG  
71839-1 Bugle Call Rag  
New York, February 9, 1932.  
Victor L-16007 (LP)  
Victor 22938  
Victor 22938

**DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS FAMOUS ORCHESTRA:** Bing Crosby-v.

BX-11263-A St. Louis Blues - vBC  
BX-11264-A Creole Love Call  
B-11265-A Rose Room  
New York, February 11, 1932.  
Brunswick 20105  
Brunswick 20105  
Brunswick 6265



*Y. Young*  
CHICAGO

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# DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA 1931 - 1932

DK 003

COMPACT  
**disc**  
DIGITAL AUDIO  
A.A.D.



- |    |  |                      |      |    |  |                       |      |
|----|--|----------------------|------|----|--|-----------------------|------|
| 1  | Is That Religion ?                                 | (E-35941-A) 01-20-31 | 2:23 | 11 | Mood Indigo/Hot And Bothered/Creole Love Call                      | (71812-2) 02-03-32    | 7:45 |
| 2  | Creole Rhapsody - Part I                           | (68231-2) 06-11-31   | 4:00 | 12 | Blue Tune  | (B-11223-A) 02-04-32  | 3:08 |
| 3  | Creole Rhapsody - Part II                          | (68233-3) 06-11-31   | 4:21 | 13 | Baby, When You Ain't There   | (B-11224-A) 02-04-32  | 2:41 |
| 4  | Limehouse Blues                                    | (68237-1) 06-16-31   | 3:06 | 14 | East St. Louis Toodle-Oo/Lots O' Fingers/<br>Black And Tan Fantasy | (71836-2) 02-09-32    | 7:31 |
| 5  | Echoes Of The Jungle                               | (68238-1) 06-16-31   | 3:25 | 15 | Dinah  | (71838-1) 02-09-32    | 2:53 |
| 6  | It's Glory   | (68239-1) 06-17-31   | 3:07 | 16 | Bugle Call Rag   | (71839-1) 02-09-32    | 3:02 |
| 7  | The Mystery Song                                   | (68240-1) 06-17-31   | 3:11 | 17 | St. Louis Blues  | (BX-11263-A) 02-11-32 | 4:28 |
| 8  | Moon Over Dixie                                    | (B-11200-A) 02-02-32 | 2:57 | 18 | Creole Love Call   | (BX-11264-A) 02-11-32 | 4:07 |
| 9  | It Don't Mean A Thing (If It Ain't Got That Swing) | (B-11204-A) 02-02-32 | 3:08 | 19 | Rose Room  | (B-11265-A) 02-11-32  | 3:00 |
| 10 | Lazy Rhapsody                                      | (B-11205-A) 02-02-32 | 3:14 |    |  |                       |      |

12 TO 19 DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS FAMOUS ORCHESTRA.

1 FRANK MARVIN VOCAL. 8 SONNY GREER VOCAL. 9 IVIE ANDERSON VOCAL. 10, 13 COOTIE WILLIAMS VOCAL.  
15 IVIE ANDERSON, SONNY GREER VOCAL. 17 BING CROSBY VOCAL.

ALSO AVAILABLE BY DUKE ELLINGTON : CLASSICS 539 (1924-27), 542 (1927-28), 550 (1928),  
559 (1928-29), 569 (1929), 577 (1929-30), 586 (1930), 596 (1930 Vol. 2) & 605 (1930-31).

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CLASSICS 616 DUKE ELLINGTON 1931-1932

DUKE ELLINGTON 1931-1932 CLASSICS 616

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