



DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA 1939

1	IN A MIZZ (Johnson-Barnet) (WM-1038-A)	06-12-39	3:06
2	I'M CHECKIN' OUT, GOO'M BYE (Ellington) (WM-1039-A)	06-12-39	2:26
3	A LONELY CO-ED (Ellington) (WM-1040-A)	06-12-39	3:15
4	YOU CAN COUNT ON ME (Maxwell-Myrow) (WM-1041-A)	06-12-39	2:54
5	NIGHT SONG (Tizol-Mundy) (WM-1042-A)	06-22-39	2:44
6	BLUES A-POPPIN' (Williams) (WM-1043-A)	06-22-39	2:49
7	TOP AND BOTTOM (Williams) (WM-1044-A)	06-22-39	2:55
8	BLACK BEAUTY (Ellington) (WM-1045-A)	06-22-39	2:44
9	BOUNCING BUOYANCY (Ellington) (WM-1062-A)	08-28-39	2:40
10	THE SERGEANT WAS SHY (Ellington) (WM-1063-A)	08-28-39	2:42
11	GRIEVIN' (Strayhorn-Ellington) (WM-1064-A)	08-28-39	3:09
12	THE RABBIT'S JUMP (Hodges) (WM-1072-A)	09-01-39	2:37
13	MOON ROMANCE (Hodges) (WM-1073-A)	09-01-39	2:45

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14	TRULY WONDERFUL (Hodges) (WM-1074-A)	09-01-39	2:22
15	DREAM BLUES (Hodges) (WM-1075-A)	09-01-39	2:58
16	LITTLE POSEY (Ellington) (WM-1091-A)	10-14-39	2:37
17	I NEVER FELT THIS WAY BEFORE (Ellington) (WM-1092-A)	10-14-39	2:55
18	GRIEVIN' (Strayhorn-Ellington) (WM-1093-A)	10-14-39	2:47
19	TOOTIN' THROUGH THE ROOF (Ellington) (WM-1094-A)	10-14-39	2:50
20	WEELY (A PORTRAIT OF BILLY STRAYHORN) (Ellington) (WM-1095-A)	10-14-39	2:54
21	SKUNK HOLLOW BLUES (Hodges) (WM-1096-A)	10-14-39	2:35
22	I KNOW WHAT YOU DO (Hodges) (WM-1097-A)	10-14-39	2:40
23	YOUR LOVE HAS FADED (Ellington) (WM-1098-A)	10-14-39	2:45
24	TIRED SOCKS (Hodges) (WM-1099-A)	10-14-39	2:48

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THE CLASSICS CHRONOLOGICAL SERIES

- 688 : ETHEL WATERS 1926-29
689 : FATS WALLER 1927-29
690 : HERMAN CHITTSO 1933-41
691 : TINY PARHAM 1929-40
692 : WILLIE "THE LION" SMITH 1938-40
693 : BENNY GOODMAN 1928-31
694 : MEZZ MEZZROW 1936-39
695 : CLARENCE WILLIAMS 1924-26
696 : SAMMY PRICE 1929-41
697 : FLETCHER HENDERSON 1923
698 : JACK TEAGARDEN 1930-34
699 : CLAUDE HOPKINS 1932-34
700 : DUKE ELLINGTON 1938
701 : ERSKINE HAWKINS 1940-41
702 : FATS WALLER 1929
703 : DJANGO REINHARDT 1934-35
704 : BLUE LU BARKER 1938-39
705 : SLIM GAILLARD 1937-38
706 : STUFF SMITH 1936-39
707 : EDDIE SOUTH 1923-37
708 : STEPHANE GRAPPELLE 1935-40
709 : MUGGSY SPANIER 1939-42
710 : MILLS BLUE RHYTHM BAND 1934-36
711 : JAMES P. JOHNSON 1938-42
712 : LUCKY MILLINDER 1941-42
713 : MEZZ MEZZROW 1928-36
714 : ALIX COMBELLE 1935-40
715 : ALBERT AMMONS 1936-39
716 : CLAUDE HOPKINS 1934-35
717 : DUKE ELLINGTON 1938 (VOLUME II)
718 : CLARENCE WILLIAMS 1926-27
719 : BENNY GOODMAN 1931-33
720 : FATS WALLER 1929-34
721 : ETHEL WATERS 1929-31
722 : MEADE LUX LEWIS 1927-39
723 : BOOTS AND HIS BUDDIES 1935-37
724 : SLIM GAILLARD 1939-40
725 : ROY ELDRIDGE 1935-40
726 : DUKE ELLINGTON 1938 (VOLUME III)
727 : DJANGO REINHARDT 1935
728 : AL COOPER 1938-41
729 : JACK TEAGARDEN 1934-39
730 : EDGAR HAYES 1937-38
731 : MILLS BLUE RHYTHM BAND 1936-37
732 : FATS WALLER 1934-35
733 : CLAUDE HOPKINS 1937-40
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735 : ETHEL WATERS 1931-34
736 : CLARENCE WILLIAMS 1927
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738 : BOOTS AND HIS BUDDIES 1937-38
739 : DJANGO REINHARDT 1935-36
740 : JAY MCHANN 1941-43
741 : LOUIS JORDAN 1941-43
742 : EDDIE CONDON 1927-38
743 : MEADE LUX LEWIS 1939-41
744 : BENNY GOODMAN 1934-35
745 : MIDGE WILLIAMS 1937-38
746 : FATS WALLER 1935
747 : DUKE ELLINGTON 1938-39
748 : DJANGO REINHARDT 1937
749 : BUNNY BERIGAN 1936-37
750 : JOHN KIRBY 1938-39
751 : ALIX COMBELLE 1940-41
752 : CLARENCE WILLIAMS 1927-28
753 : SLIM GAILLARD/R.R. BOYS 1939-42
754 : GENE KRUPA 1935-38
755 : ETHEL WATERS 1935-40
756 : LOVIE AUSTIN 1924-26
757 : NAT "KING" COLE 1936-40
758 : JACK TEAGARDEN 1939-40
759 : EDDIE CONDON 1938-40
760 : FATS WALLER 1935 (VOLUME II)
761 : BESSIE SMITH 1923
762 : DJANGO REINHARDT 1937 (VOLUME II)
763 : JOE MARSALA 1936-42
764 : BILL COLEMAN 1936-38
765 : DUKE ELLINGTON 1939
766 : BUNNY BERIGAN 1937
767 : GENE KRUPA 1938
768 : WILLIE BRYANT 1935-36
769 : BENNY GOODMAN 1935
770 : JOHN KIRBY 1939-41
771 : CLARENCE WILLIAMS 1928-29
772 : EDDIE CONDON 1942-43
773 : NAT "KING" COLE 1940-41
774 : WINGY MANONE 1927-34
775 : ETHEL WATERS 1923-25
776 : FATS WALLER 1935-36
777 : DJANGO REINHARDT 1937-38
778 : BIX BEIDERBECKE 1924-27
779 : STEPHANE GRAPPELLE 1941-43
780 : DUKE ELLINGTON 1939 (VOLUME II)
781 : BUD FREEMAN 1928-38
782 : ALIX COMBELLE 1942-43
783 : BLANCHE CALLOWAY 1925-35
784 : CHU BERRY 1937-41
785 : BUNNY BERIGAN 1937-38
786 : NAT "KING" COLE 1941-43
787 : BESSIE SMITH 1923-24
788 : BIX BEIDERBECKE 1927-30
789 : BENNY GOODMAN 1935-36...

Classics 500 to 687 are available.

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DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA 1939

In the autumn of 1938, a year after sending his first charts to Duke Ellington, Billy Strayhorn joined the band. The mutual inspiration triggered by this collaboration resulted in the orchestra's reaching a new artistic peak in 1940. The period just before, partly covered by the recordings on the present CD, already anticipates much of the beauty of the better-known sessions soon to come.

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.

This volume of the complete studio-sessions of Duke Ellington, presented in chronological order, opens with a date featuring vocalist Ivie Anderson. In addition to the romantic sides, Ms. Anderson also demonstrates her ability to swing hard on "I'm Checkin' Out". The date by Cootie's Rug Cutters ranks among the best of Ellington small-group sessions. "Night Song", co-composed by arranger/composer Jimmy Mundy, who rarely worked for Ellington, features Cootie and his men at their best. Inexplicably, the tremendous "Grievin'", arranged by Billy Strayhorn, was not issued at the time. Solos are by Williams and Hodges, followed by Tricky Sam. Hodges then takes over for some timeless music, including a particularly inspired "Moon Romance" that shows all the beauty of the saxophonist's legato style. The full-band session of October ranks among their finest of the period. "Littly Posey" was dedicated to trumpeter Freddy Jenkins, who was seriously ill at the time. "Weely", Ellington's first and wonderfully charming musical portrait of Strayhorn, highlights Billy's piano and draws inspired solos from Rex Stewart and Harry Carney. "Tootin'" features an exciting trumpet-battle between Rex and Cootie. After this recording, Hodges cut the four further sides under his own name that close the present CD. This extended session marks the beginning of bassist Jimmy Blanton's stint with the Duke Ellington Orchestra, and our next volume will include his first majestic duos with the Duke. To be continued...

Anatol Schenker, July 1994.

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DISCOGRAPHY DUKE ELLINGTON 1939

DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS FAMOUS ORCHESTRA: Duke Ellington-p-a dir. Wallace Jones - Cootie Williams-t/Rex Stewart-c/ Joe "Tricky Sam" Nanton - Lawrence Brown-tb/ Juan Tizol-vtb/ Barney Bigard-cl/ Johnny Hodges-cl-ss-as/ Harry Carney-cl-as-bar/ Otto Hardwick-as-bsx/ Fred Guy-g/ Billy Taylor-sb/ Sonny Greer-d/ Ivie Anderson-v.

New York, June 12, 1939.
 WM-1038-A In A Mizz - v1A Brunswick 8405
 WM-1039-A I'm Checkin' Out, Goo'm Bye - v1A Columbia 35208
 WM-1040-A A Lonely Co-Ed - v1A Columbia 35240
 WM-1041-A You Can Count On Me - v1A Brunswick 8411

COOTIE WILLIAMS AND HIS RUG CUTTERS: Cootie Williams-t/ Johnny Hodges-ss-as/ Barney Bigard-cl-ts/ Harry Carney-bar/ Duke Ellington-p/ Billy Taylor-sb/ Sonny Greer-d. Billy Strayhorn-p replaces Ellington*.

New York, June 22, 1939.
 WM-1042-A Night Song Vocalion 4958
 WM-1043-A "Blues A-Poppin'" Vocalion 5618
 WM-1044-A Top And Bottom Okeh 6336
 WM-1045-A Black Beauty Vocalion 4958

DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS FAMOUS ORCHESTRA: Duke Ellington-p-a dir. Wallace Jones - Cootie Williams-t/Rex Stewart-c/ Joe "Tricky Sam" Nanton - Lawrence Brown-tb/ Juan Tizol-vtb/ Barney Bigard-cl/ Johnny Hodges-cl-ss-as/ Harry Carney-cl-as-bar/ Otto Hardwick-as-bsx/ Fred Guy-g/ Billy Taylor-sb/ Sonny Greer-d/ Billy Strayhorn-a.

New York, August 28, 1939.
 WM-1062-A Bouncing Buoyancy Columbia 35240
 WM-1063-A The Sergeant Was Shy Columbia 35214
 WM-1064-A Grievin' - aBS Columbia rejected

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JOHNNY HODGES AND HIS ORCHESTRA: Cootie Williams-t/Lawrence Brown-tb/ Johnny Hodges-ss-as/ Harry Carney-bar/ Duke Ellington-p/ Billy Taylor-sb/ Sonny Greer-d. Billy Strayhorn-p replaces Ellington*.

New York, September 1, 1939.
 WM-1072-A "The Rabbit's Jump" Vocalion 5100
 WM-1073-A Moon Romance Okeh 5940
 WM-1074-A "Truly Wonderful" Vocalion 5330
 WM-1075-A Dream Blues Vocalion 5353

DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS FAMOUS ORCHESTRA: Duke Ellington-p-a dir. Wallace Jones - Cootie Williams-t/Rex Stewart-c/ Joe "Tricky Sam" Nanton - Lawrence Brown-tb/ Juan Tizol-vtb/ Barney Bigard-cl/ Johnny Hodges-cl-ss-as/ Harry Carney-cl-as-bar/ Otto Hardwick-as-bsx/ Fred Guy-g/ Jimmy Blanton-sb/ Sonny Greer-d/ Billy Strayhorn-a.

New York, October 14, 1939.
 WM-1091-A Little Posey Columbia 35291
 WM-1092-A I Never Felt This Way Before - bclHC Columbia 35353
 WM-1093-A Grievin' - aBS Columbia 35310
 WM-1094-A Tootin' Through The Roof Columbia 35310
 WM-1095-A Weely Columbia 35353

JOHNNY HODGES AND HIS ORCHESTRA: as September 1, 1939 but Jimmy Blanton-sb replaces Taylor.

New York, October 14, 1939.
 WM-1096-A "Skunk Hollow Blues" Vocalion 5533
 WM-1097-A I Know What You Do Vocalion 5353
 WM-1098-A Your Love Has Faded Okeh 5940
 WM-1099-A "Tired Socks" Vocalion 5533

CLASSICS 780



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DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA

1939 Vol.2

DK 003
COMPACT
disc
DIGITAL AUDIO
A.A.D.



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|-------------------------------|----------------------|------|--|----------------------|------|
| 1 In A Mizz | (WM-1038-A) 06-12-39 | 3:06 | 14 Truly Wonderful | (WM-1074-A) 09-01-39 | 2:22 |
| 2 I'm Checkin' Out, Goo'm Bye | (WM-1039-A) 06-12-39 | 2:26 | 15 Dream Blues | (WM-1075-A) 09-01-39 | 2:58 |
| 3 A Lonely Co-Ed | (WM-1040-A) 06-12-39 | 3:15 | 16 Little Posey | (WM-1091-A) 10-14-39 | 2:37 |
| 4 You Can Count On Me | (WM-1041-A) 06-12-39 | 2:54 | 17 I Never Felt This Way Before | (WM-1092-A) 10-14-39 | 2:55 |
| 5 Night Song | (WM-1042-A) 06-22-39 | 2:44 | 18 Grievin' | (WM-1093-A) 10-14-39 | 2:47 |
| 6 Blues A-Poppin' | (WM-1043-A) 06-22-39 | 2:49 | 19 Tootin' Through The Roof | (WM-1094-A) 10-14-39 | 2:50 |
| 7 Top And Bottom | (WM-1044-A) 06-22-39 | 2:55 | 20 Weely (A Portrait Of Billy Strayhorn) | (WM-1095-A) 10-14-39 | 2:54 |
| 8 Black Beauty | (WM-1045-A) 06-22-39 | 2:44 | 21 Skunk Hollow Blues | (WM-1096-A) 10-14-39 | 2:35 |
| 9 Bouncing Buoyancy | (WM-1062-A) 08-28-39 | 2:40 | 22 I Know What You Do | (WM-1097-A) 10-14-39 | 2:40 |
| 10 The Sergeant Was Shy | (WM-1063-A) 08-28-39 | 2:42 | 23 Your Love Has Faded | (WM-1098-A) 10-14-39 | 2:45 |
| 11 Grievin' | (WM-1064-A) 08-28-39 | 3:09 | 24 Tired Socks | (WM-1099-A) 10-14-39 | 2:48 |
| 12 The Rabbit's Jump | (WM-1072-A) 09-01-39 | 2:37 | | | |
| 13 Moon Romance | (WM-1073-A) 09-01-39 | 2:45 | | | |

1 TO 4, 9, 10, 11, 16 TO 20 DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS FAMOUS ORCHESTRA. 5 TO 8 COOTIE WILLIAMS AND HIS RUG CUTTERS. 12 TO 15, 21 TO 24 JOHNNY HODGES AND HIS ORCHESTRA. 1 TO 4 IVIE ANDERSON VOCAL.

ALSO AVAILABLE BY DUKE ELLINGTON : CLASSICS 539 (1924-27), 542 (27-28), 550 (28), 559 (28-29), 569 (29), 577 (29-30), 586 (30), 596 (30 Vol. 2), 605 (30-31), 616 (31-32), 626 (32-33), 637 (33), 646 (33-35), 659 (35-36), 666 (36-37), 675 (37), 687 (37 Vol. 2), 700 (38), 717 (38 Vol. 2), 726 (38 Vol.3), 747 (1938-39) & 765 (1939).

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CLASSICS 780

DUKE ELLINGTON

1939 Vol. 2

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