



DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA 1940

1	THERE SHALL BE NO NIGHT (Shalley-Silver) (053427-1)	09-05-40	3:11
2	IN A MELLOTONE (Ellington) (053428-1)	09-05-40	3:16
3	FIVE O'CLOCK WHISTLE (Gannon-Myrow-Irwin) (053429-1)	09-05-40	3:18
4	WARM VALLEY (Ellington) (053430-1)	09-05-40	3:14
5	PITTER PANTHER PATTER (Ellington) (053504-2)	10-01-40	3:01
6	BODY AND SOUL (Heyman-Sour-Eyton-Green) (053505-3)	10-01-40	3:09
7	SOPHISTICATED LADY (Ellington-Mills-Parish) (053506-2)	10-01-40	2:44
8	MR. J. B. BLUES (Ellington-Blanton) (053507-2)	10-01-40	3:02
9	THE FLAMING SWORD (Ellington) (053552-2)	10-17-40	3:05
10	WARM VALLEY (Ellington) (053430-3)	10-17-40	3:22
11	ACROSS THE TRACK BLUES (Ellington) (053579-1)	10-28-40	2:58
12	CHLOE (SONG OF THE SWAMP) (Kahn-Moret) (053580-1)	10-28-40	3:24
13	I NEVER FELT THIS WAY BEFORE (Ellington) (053581-1)	10-28-40	3:29

14	DAY DREAM (Strayhorn-Ellington-La Touche) (053603-1)	11-02-40	2:56
15	GOOD QUEEN BESS (Hodges) (053604-1)	11-02-40	2:57
16	THAT'S THE BLUES, OLD MAN (Hodges) (053605-1)	11-02-40	2:54
17	JUNIOR HOP (Ellington) (053606-2)	11-02-40	3:06
18	WITHOUT A SONG (Rose-Eliscu-Youmans) (053607-1)	11-02-40	2:45
19	MY SUNDAY GAL (Ellington) (053608-1)	11-02-40	3:07
20	MOBILE BAY (Stewart-Ellington) (053609-1)	11-02-40	3:04
21	LINGER AWHILE (Rose-Owens) (053610-2)	11-02-40	3:23

THE CLASSICS CHRONOLOGICAL SERIES

- 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
734 : BUNNY BERIGAN 1935-36
735 : ETHEL WATERS 1931-34
736 : CLARENCE WILLIAMS 1927
737 : EDDIE SOUTH 1937-41
738 : BOOTS AND HIS BUDDIES 1937-38
739 : DJANGO REINHARDT 1935-36
740 : JAY McSHANN 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 GRAPPELLO 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
790 : DUKE ELLINGTON 1939-40
791 : CLARENCE WILLIAMS 1929
792 : JOHN KIRBY 1941-43
793 : DJANGO REINHARDT 1938-39
794 : FLETCHER HENDERSON 1921-23
795 : JESS STACY 1935-39

Classics 500 to 727 are available.

CLASSICS 820

DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA 1940

The Duke Ellington orchestra continued to record outstanding music throughout the second half of 1940. The exceptional quality of the big band's work was already evident from the masterpieces on the previous CD in this series. The present disc also includes two magnificent small-group sessions, and these confirm the creative and artistic peak Duke Ellington and his musicians had reached by this time.

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 recordings of Duke Ellington, presented in chronological order, opens with a beautiful ballad featuring Herb Jeffries. The swinging "In A Mellotone", based on the chords of "Rose Room", later found its way into the repertory of many mainstream bands. The first of several features for Johnny Hodges, "Warm Valley", is followed by an eminently important session featuring Ellington and Jimmy Blanton. These four duets benefit from RCA-Victor's near-perfect recording quality. Blanton's most original and creative passages are on "Pitter Panther Patter", but the bassist is equally impressive in the bowed passages of "Body And Soul", and he is skilfully backed by Ellington's piano. Hodges' second interpretation of the superb "Warm valley" compares favourably with the strongly Latin-tinged "Flaming Sword". Johnny Hodges had the opportunity to record four tremendous titles under his own name in November, among them "Day Dream", which ranks alongside his most impressive recordings of that year. Later the same day, Rex Stewart recorded four equally fine performances with Ben Webster turning in particularly sensuous solos on "Without A Song" and "Linger Awhile". This latter title and the lyrical "My Sunday Gal" are noteworthy for Harry Carney's solos on alto-sax, an instrument he manipulated with the same finesse as the baritone. To be continued...

Anatol Schenker, March 1995.

CLASSICS 820

DISCOGRAPHY DUKE ELLINGTON 1940

DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS FAMOUS ORCHESTRA: Duke Ellington-p-a dir. Wardell 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/Ben Webster-ts/Fred Guy-g/Jimmy Blanton-sb/Sonny Greer-d/Herb Jeffries-v/Ivie Anderson-v.

053427-1 There Shall Be No Night - vHJ
053428-1 In A Mellotone
053429-1 Five O'Clock Whistle - vIA
053430-1 Warm Valley

Chicago, September 5, 1940.
Victor 26748
Victor 26788
Victor 26748
Victor originally unreleased

DUKE ELLINGTON AND JIMMY BLANTON: piano and string bass duets.

053504-2 Pitter Panther Patter
053505-3 Body And Soul
053506-2 Sophisticated Lady
053507-1 Mr. J. B. Blues

Chicago, October 1, 1940.
Victor 27221
Victor 27406
Victor 27221
Victor 27406

DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS FAMOUS ORCHESTRA: as for September 5, 1940.

053552-2 The Flaming Sword
053430-3 Warm Valley

Chicago, October 17, 1940.
Victor 26796
Victor 26796

CLASSICS 820

DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS FAMOUS ORCHESTRA: Duke Ellington-p-a dir. Wardell 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/Ben Webster-ts/Fred Guy-g/Jimmy Blanton-sb/Sonny Greer-d/Herb Jeffries-v/Billy Strayhorn-a.

053579-1 Across The Track Blues
053580-1 Chloe (Song Of The Swamp) - aBS
053581-1 I Never Felt This Way Before - vHJ

Chicago, October 28, 1940.
Victor 27235
Victor 27235
Victor 27247

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

053603-1 Day Dream - aBS
053604-1 Good Queen Bess
053605-1 That's The Blues, Old Man
053606-1 Junior Hop

Chicago, November 2, 1940.
Bluebird B-11021
Bluebird B-11117
Bluebird B-11117
Bluebird B-11021

REX STEWART AND HIS ORCHESTRA: Rex Stewart-c/Lawrence Brown-tb/Ben Webster-ts/Harry Carney-as-bar/Duke Ellington-p/Jimmy Blanton-sb/Sonny Greer-d.

053607-1 Without A Song
053608-1 My Sunday Gal
053609-1 Mobile Bay
053610-2 Linger Awhile

Chicago, November 2, 1940.
Bluebird B-10946
Bluebird B-10946
Bluebird B-11057
Bluebird B-11057

CLASSICS 820



MADE IN FRANCE - CLASSICS RECORDS

8 2 0

8 2 0

DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA

1940 Vol.2

DK 003

COMPACT
disc
DIGITAL AUDIO
A.A.D.



- | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|-------------------------|------------|----------|------|----|------------------------------|------------|----------|------|
| 1 | There Shall Be No Night | (053427-1) | 09-05-40 | 3:11 | 12 | Chloe (Song Of The Swamp) | (053580-1) | 10-28-40 | 3:24 |
| 2 | In A Mellotone | (053428-1) | 09-05-40 | 3:16 | 13 | I Never Felt This Way Before | (053581-1) | 10-28-40 | 3:29 |
| 3 | Five O'Clock Whistle | (053429-1) | 09-05-40 | 3:18 | 14 | Day Dream | (053603-1) | 11-02-40 | 2:56 |
| 4 | Warm Valley | (053430-1) | 09-05-40 | 3:14 | 15 | Good Queen Bess | (053604-1) | 11-02-40 | 2:57 |
| 5 | Pitter Panther Patter | (053504-2) | 10-01-40 | 3:01 | 16 | That's The Blues, Old Man | (053605-1) | 11-02-40 | 2:54 |
| 6 | Body And Soul | (053505-3) | 10-01-40 | 3:09 | 17 | Junior Hop | (053606-2) | 11-02-40 | 3:06 |
| 7 | Sophisticated Lady | (053506-2) | 10-01-40 | 2:44 | 18 | Without A Song | (053607-1) | 11-02-40 | 2:45 |
| 8 | Mr. J. B. Blues | (053507-2) | 10-01-40 | 3:02 | 19 | My Sunday Gal | (053608-1) | 11-02-40 | 3:07 |
| 9 | The Flaming Sword | (053552-2) | 10-17-40 | 3:05 | 20 | Mobile Bay | (053609-1) | 11-02-40 | 3:04 |
| 10 | Warm Valley | (053430-3) | 10-17-40 | 3:22 | 21 | Linger Awhile | (053610-2) | 11-02-40 | 3:23 |
| 11 | Across The Track Blues | (053579-1) | 10-28-40 | 2:58 | | | | | |

1 TO 4, 9 TO 13 DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS FAMOUS ORCHESTRA. 5 TO 8 DUKE ELLINGTON AND JIMMY BLANTON. 14 TO 17 JOHNNY HODGES AND HIS ORCHESTRA. 18 TO 21 REX STEWART AND HIS ORCHESTRA. 1, 13 HERB JEFFRIES VOCAL. 3 IVIE ANDERSON VOCAL.

ALSO AVAILABLE BY DUKE ELLINGTON : CLASSICS 539, 542, 550, 559, 569, 577, 586, 596, 605, 616, 626, 637, 646, 659, 666, 675, 687, 700, 717, 726, 747, 765, 780, 790 & 805.

MADE IN FRANCE © 1995 CLASSICS RECORDS
DISTRIBUTION FRANCE : MÉLODIE

CLASSICS 820 DUKE ELLINGTON 1940 Vol. 2

DUKE ELLINGTON 1940 Vol. 2 CLASSICS 820

8 2 0

8 2 0