



THE CHRONOLOGICAL



DUKE ELLINGTON
AND HIS ORCHESTRA
1942 - 1944

WITH BEN WEBSTER, RAY NANCE, REX STEWART,
TRICKY SAM, JOHNNY HODGES, DIZZY GILLESPIE,
SKIPPY WILLIAMS, LAWRENCE BROWN...

CLASSICS

DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA 1942 - 1944

1	PERDIDO (Tizol) <i>(070682-1)</i>	01-21-42	3:08
2	THE "C" JAM BLUES (Ellington) <i>(070683-1)</i>	01-21-42	2:37
3	MOON MIST (Ellington) <i>(070684-2)</i>	01-21-42	2:59
4	WHAT AM I HERE FOR? (Ellington) <i>(071890-1)</i>	02-26-42	3:25
5	I DON'T MIND (Strayhorn-Ellington) <i>(071891-1)</i>	02-26-42	2:49
6	SOMEONE (Ellington) <i>(071892-2)</i>	02-26-42	3:04
7	MY LITTLE BROWN BOOK (Strayhorn) <i>(072437-1)</i>	06-26-42	3:09
8	MAIN STEM (Ellington) <i>(072438-1)</i>	06-26-42	2:47
9	JOHNNY COME LATELY (Strayhorn) <i>(072439-1)</i>	06-26-42	2:39
10	HAYFOOT, STRAWFOOT (Lenk-Drake-McGrane) <i>(074781-1)</i>	07-28-42	2:31
11	SENTIMENTAL LADY (Ellington) <i>(074782-1)</i>	07-28-42	3:02
12	A SLIP OF THE LIP (CAN SINK A SHIP) (Henderson Jr.-Ellington) <i>(074783-1)</i>	07-28-42	2:53
13	SHERMAN SHUFFLE (Ellington) <i>(074784-1)</i>	07-28-42	2:38

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14	BOY MEETS HORN (Ellington-Stewart) <i>(VP-494)</i>	11-08-43	4:47
15	HOP SKIP JUMP (Ellington) <i>(VP-990)</i>	11-08-43	2:39
16	THINGS AIN'T WHAT THEY USED TO BE (Persons-Ellington) <i>(VP-866)</i>	11-09-43	3:15
17	MAIN STEM (Ellington) <i>(VP-990)</i>	11-09-43	2:55
18	CREOLE LOVE CALL (Ellington) <i>(VP-1059)</i>	12-01-43	4:27
19	THE MOOD TO BE WOODED (Ellington) <i>(VP-704)</i>	05-26-44	5:03
20	MY LITTLE BROWN BOOK (Strayhorn) <i>(VP-705)</i>	05-26-44	3:10
21	I'M CHECKIN' OUT GOOM-BYE (Ellington-Strayhorn) <i>(JDB-286)</i>	11-24-39	1:56
22	TOOTIN' THROUGH THE ROOF (Ellington) <i>(JDB-286)</i>	11-24-39	2:11

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CLASSICS 867

DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA 1942 - 1944

Duke Ellington's stage-appearances during his European tours of 1933 and 1939 met with a success unfortunately not repeated his musical-revue "Jump For Joy". It ran in Hollywood for just three months, and plans to present the show on Broadway never materialized. However, on January 23, 1943, Duke Ellington and His Orchestra played a legendary concert at Carnegie Hall. With the exception of Benny Goodman in 1938 and an ill-fated appearance by Fats Waller in 1942, no jazz musician had played there before.

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 recordings of Duke Ellington and His Orchestra, presented in chronological order, includes the band's entire studio output of 1942. The opening tracks, "Perdido" and "C-Jam Blues", have since joined the ranks of the most frequently recorded standards of the Duke Ellington songbook. It is interesting to note that both tunes were originally played at a much slower tempo than is usually the case today. "What Am I Here For" may be less familiar, but is of the same high quality and includes magnificent solos by Tricky Sam, Rex Stewart and Ben Webster. Surely one of the most neglected masterpieces by the Ellington band! "Main Stem", recorded four months later, is one of the hardest-swinging records ever made by the orchestra. Three days before the recording-ban, Ellington recorded again, the cuts including the lovely ballad "Sentimental Lady", later re-recorded as "I Didn't Know About You". Ellington was now blocked from making any further commercial recordings until December 1943, but remained incredibly creative, not least by premiering his suite "Black, Brown & Beige" at Carnegie Hall. Like many other top bands, he was fortunately also able to record a good number of excellent V-Discs for the U.S. Army, the first of which close this CD. These extended recordings give the soloists more room to stretch out, and Johnny Hodges, especially, turns in some unforgettable solos, particularly on "Hop, Skip And Jump" and "Mood To Be Wooped". To be continued...

Anatol Schenker, December 1995.

CLASSICS 867

DISCOGRAPHY DUKE ELLINGTON 1942 - 1944

DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS FAMOUS ORCHESTRA: Duke Ellington-p-a dir. Wallace Jones-t/Ray Nance-t-vn/v/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/Billy Strayhorn-p-a where shown/Fred Guy-g/Junior Raglin-sb/Sonny Greer-d/Ivie Anderson-Herb Jeffries-v.

Chicago, January 21, 1942.
 070682-1 Perdido Victor 27880
 070683-1 The "C" Jam Blues Victor 27856
 070684-2 Moon Mist Victor 27856

DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS FAMOUS ORCHESTRA: same.

Chicago, February 26, 1942.
 071890-1 What Am I Here For? Victor 20-1598
 071891-1 I Don't Mind - v1A Victor 20-1598
 071892-1 Someone Victor 20-1584

DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS FAMOUS ORCHESTRA: same.

Hollywood, June 26, 1942.
 072437-1 My Little Brown Book - pBS/vHJ Victor 20-1584
 072438-1 Main Stem Victor 20-1556
 072439-1 Johnny Come Lately - pBS Victor 20-1556

DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS FAMOUS ORCHESTRA: Chauncey Haughton-cl replaces Bigard.

Chicago, July 28, 1942.
 074781-1 Hayfoot, Strawfoot - v1A Victor 20-1505
 074782-1 Sentimental Lady Victor 20-1528
 074783-1 A Slip Of The Lip (Can Sink A Ship) - vRN/aBS Victor 20-1528
 074784-1 Sherman Shuffle Victor 20-1505

DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA: Duke Ellington-p-a dir. Harold "Shorty" Baker-John "Dizzy" Gillespie-Wallace Jones-James "Taft" Jordan-t/Rex Stewart-c/Lawrence Brown-Joe "Tricky Sam" Nanton-Juan Tizol-tb/Jimmy Hamilton-cl/Otto Hardwick-Johnny Hodges-as/Elbert "Skippy" Williams-ts/Harry Carney-bs/Fred Guy-g/Ernest "Wilson" Myers-b/Sonny Greer-d.

New York, November 8, 1943.
 VP-494 Boy Meets Horn V-Disc 176-A
 VP-990 Hop Skip And Jump V-Disc 355-A

DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA: Ray Nance-t-vn, Junior Raglin-b replace Gillespie and Myers.

New York, November 9, 1943.
 VP-866 Things Ain't What They Used To Be V-Disc 315-B
 VP-990 Main Stem V-Disc 355-A

DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA: same.

New York, December 1, 1943.
 VP-1059 Creole Love Call V-Disc 415-A

DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA: Duke Ellington-p-a dir. Shelton "Scad" Hemphill-Taft Jordan-t/Ray Nance-t-vn/Rex Stewart-c/Lawrence Brown-Claude Jones-Joe "Tricky Sam" Nanton-tb/Jimmy Hamilton-cl/Otto Hardwick-Johnny Hodges-as/Al Sears-ts/Harry Carney-bs/Fred Guy-g/Junior Raglin-b/Sonny Greer-d/Al Hibbler-v.

New York, May 26, 1944.
 VP-704 The Mood To Be Woored V-Disc 252-A
 VP-705 My Little Brown Book - vAH V-Disc 252-B

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

Chicago, November 24, 1939.
 JDB-286 I'm Checkin' Out Goom-bye - v1A V-Disc 723-A
 JDB-286 Tootin' Through The Roof V-Disc 723-A



Duke Ellington in the Mae West film "Murder At The Vanities".

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DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA 1942 - 1944

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1942-1944

DUKE ELLINGTON

CLASSICS 867

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|----|-------------------------------------|------------|----------|------|----|-----------------------------------|------------|----------|------|
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| 12 | A Slip Of The Lip (Can Sink A Ship) | (074783-1) | 07-28-42 | 2:53 | | | | | |

5, 10, 21 IVIE ANDERSON VOCAL. 7 HERB JEFFRIES VOCAL. 12 RAY NANCE VOCAL. 20 AL HIBBLER 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, 820 & 851.

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DUKE ELLINGTON

1942-1944

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