



DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA 1945 - 1946

1	PERFUME SUITE - COLORATURA (Ellington) (D5VB-506-2)	07-30-45	2:57
2	TIME'S A-WASTIN' (Ellington-Ellington) (D5VB-518-1)	07-30-45	3:02
3	PERFUME SUITE - DANCERS IN LOVE (Ellington) (D5VB-519-1)	07-30-45	2:18
4	CARNEGIE BLUES (Ellington) (VP-1583)	09-08-45	2:49
5	TELL YA WHAT I'M GONNA DO (Green-Blane) (D5VB-662-1)	10-08-45	2:45
6	COME TO BABY, DO! (James-Miller) (D5VB-663-1)	10-08-45	2:45
7	I'M JUST A LUCKY SO AND SO (Ellington-David) (D5VB-949-1)	11-26-45	3:11
8	LONG, STRONG AND CONSECUTIVE (Ellington-David) (D5VB-950-1)	11-26-45	2:54
9	THE WONDER OF YOU (Ellington-Hodges-George) (D5VB-951-1)	11-26-45	2:45
10	TONK (Ellington-Strayhorn) (D6VB-1518-1)	01-10-46	2:45
11	DRAWING ROOM BLUES (Strayhorn) (D6VB-1519-1)	01-10-46	3:35
12	ESQUIRE SWANK (Ellington-Hodges) (JDB-25)	01-16-46	4:56
13	"C" JAM BLUES (Ellington) (JDB-67)	01-16-46	2:19

CLASSICS 985

DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA 1945 - 1946

The period 1945/46, covered by the recordings on this CD, saw a number of changes in Duke Ellington's band: Oscar Pettiford was hired as bass player, certainly the best in Duke's band since Jimmy Blanton. In addition, veterans Otto Hardwick and Joe Nanton, both with Ellington since the early days also had to be replaced, alto-saxophonist Hardwick retiring from the music scene whereas trombonist "Tricky Sam" Nanton died in July 1946. 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, Holland 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 chronological recordings of Duke Ellington opens with the studio version of another segment from the magnificent "Perfume Suite". "Time's A-Wastin'" is nothing other than a new version of "Things Ain't What They Used To Be" and is not related to Jimmy Lunceford's composition of the same title. "Dancers In Love" that concludes "Perfume Suite" turns out to be the most swinging chapter from this extended composition. (The four parts were recorded at two different sessions, hence they do not appear in succession here.) Both tracks from the October 1945 session, featuring Joya Sherrill, have Big Sid Catlett on drums in place of Sonny Greer who was absent for health reasons. Oscar Pettiford joined Ellington in mid-November. His full, warm bass playing can be heard on the opening bars of "Long, Strong And Consecutive" as well as on the following tracks of this CD - with the noteworthy exception of "Tonk" and "Drawing Room Blues". These duos once more underline to what extent the leader's and Billy Strayhorn's piano playing and musical concepts were close. Three tracks from V-Discs lead into an extended session, recorded on two consecutive days in July 1946. "Suddenly It Jumps" swings enormously - due in a large part to Oscar Pettiford's dynamic playing. "Translucency", no doubt one of the highlights among Duke's compositions, is an elaboration of Lawrence Brown's solo on "Blue Light" (Classics CD 747) recorded in 1938. This time Kay Davis' soprano voice and Jimmy Hamilton's clarinet are blended with Brown's gorgeous trombone, reminding the sound of a string quartet. Another gem in the same vein emerged in 1947, titled "On A Turquoise Cloud". "Just Squeeze Me" had previously been recorded by Rex Stewart in 1941 as "Subtle Slough" (see Classics 851). From now on, it was to be one of the feature-numbers of Ray Nance who also sings on the closing "Hey Baby". To be continued...

Anatol Schenker, December 1997.

CLASSICS 985

DISCOGRAPHY DUKE ELLINGTON 1945 - 1946

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

D5VB-506-2 Perfume Suite - Coloratura
 D5VB-518-1 Time's A-Wastin'
 D5VB-519-1 Perfume Suite - Dancers In Love - p/b only

New York, July 30, 1945.
 Victor 20-4712
 Victor 20-1718
 Victor 20-4712

DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA: same.

VP-1583 Carnegie Blues

New York, September 8, 1945.
 V-Disc 558-A

DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA: Sidney Catlett-d replaces Greer, Joya Sherrill-v added.

D5VB-662-1 Tell Ya What I'm Gonna Do - vJS
 D5VB-663-1 Come To Baby, Do! - vJS

New York, October 8, 1945.
 Victor 20-1748
 Victor 20-1748

DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA: Duke Ellington-p dir. Rex Stewart-cornet/Cat Anderson-Scad Hemphill-Taft Jordan-t/Lawrence Brown-Claude Jones-Wilbur de Paris-tb/johnny Hodges-Otto Hardwick-as/Jimmy Hamilton-cl-ts/Al Sears-ts/Harry Carney-bar/Fred Guy-g/Oscar Pettiford-b/Sonny Greer-d/Al Hibbler-Joya Sherrill-v.

D5VB-949-1 I'm Just A Lucky So And So - vAH
 D5VB-950-1 Long, Strong And Consecutive - vJS
 D5VB-951-1 The Wonder Of You - vJS

New York, November 26, 1945.
 Victor 20-1799
 Victor LPV553 (LP)
 Victor 20-1799

DUKE ELLINGTON AND BILLY STRAYHORN: Duke Ellington-Billy Strayhorn-p.

D6VB-1518-1 Tonk
 D6VB-1519-1 Drawing Room Blues

New York, January 10, 1946.
 Victor LPT31 (LP)
 Victor 20-2327

DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA: as November 26; Bernard Flood-t added; Francis Williams-t replaces Stewart.

JD-25 Esquire Swank

New York, January 16, 1946.
 V-Disc 617-A

NOTE : spoken introduction by Leonard Feather.

CLASSICS 985

14 UNBOOTED CHARACTER (Ellington)
 (JDB-111)

03-16-46 4:40

15 ROCKABYE RIVER (Ellington)
 (D6VB-2093-1)

07-09-46 3:02

16 SUDDENLY IT JUMPED (Ellington)
 (D6VB-2094-1)

07-09-46 2:46

17 TRANSLUCENCY (Ellington-Brown)
 (D6VB-2095-2)

07-09-46 2:58

18 JUST SQUEEZE ME (Ellington-Gaines)
 (D6VB-2096-2)

07-09-46 3:23

19 A' GATHERING IN A CLEARING (Ellington-Anderson)
 (D6VB-2097-1)

07-09-46 3:07

20 YOU DON'T LOVE ME NO MORE (Ellington)
 (D6VB-2098-1)

07-09-46 3:20

21 PRETTY WOMAN (Ellington)
 (D6VB-2099-1)

07-09-46 2:41

22 HEY! BABY (Ellington)
 (D6VB-2100-1)

07-09-46 2:45

Photos courtesy of Léon Dierckx.

CLASSICS 985

THE CLASSICS CHRONOLOGICAL SERIES

- 893 : NAT "KING" COLE 1945
 894 : CHARLES BROWN 1944-45
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 896 : BARNEY BIGARD 1944
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 898 : STAN KENTON 1945
 899 : BENNY GOODMAN 1937-38
 900 : ZIGGY ELMAN 1938-39
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 903 : HARRY JAMES 1937-39
 904 : BUSTER BAILEY 1925-40
 905 : DJANGO REINHARDT 1942-43
 906 : BENNY MORTON 1934-45
 907 : MUGGSY SPANIER 1944
 908 : TEDDY WILSON 1942-45
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 916 : TOMMY DORSEY 1936-37
 917 : GENE KRUPA 1940 (VOLUME III)
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 919 : BILLY KYLE 1937-38
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 923 : BENNY CARTER 1943-46
 924 : ERROLL GARNER 1945-46
 925 : BENNY GOODMAN 1938
 926 : COLEMAN HAWKINS 1945
 927 : ALBERT AMMONS 1940-46
 928 : LOUIS ARMSTRONG 1944-46
 929 : ARTIE SHAW 1937
 930 : BARNEY BIGARD 1944-45
 931 : REX STEWART 1934-46
 932 : LESTER YOUNG 1943-46
 933 : PETE JOHNSON 1944-46
 934 : COUNT BASIE 1945-46
 935 : DIZZY GILLESPIE 1945-46
 936 : HARRY JAMES 1940
 937 : DICKIE WELLS 1927-43
 938 : NAT "KING" COLE 1946
 939 : SLAM STEWART 1945-46
 940 : JOE TURNER 1941-46
 941 : BILLY KYLE 1939-46
 942 : BUD FREEMAN 1945-46
 943 : FATS WALLER 1938-39
 944 : CHARLIE SHAVERS 1944-45
 945 : DJANGO REINHARDT 1944-46
 946 : LIONEL HAMPTON 1946
 947 : EDDIE HEYWOOD 1944
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 949 : STAN KENTON 1946
 950 : HOT LIPS PAGE 1944-46
 951 : DUKE ELLINGTON 1945 (VOLUME II)
 952 : WINGY MANONE 1937-38
 953 : CLARENCE WILLIAMS 1937-41
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 955 : TOMMY DORSEY 1937
 956 : JOHNNY GUARNIERI 1944-46
 957 : IKE QUEBEC 1944-45
 958 : SARAH VAUGHAN 1944-46
 959 : DON BYAS 1945 (VOLUME II)
 960 : GENE KRUPA 1941
 961 : BENNY GOODMAN 1938 (VOLUME II)
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 965 : ARTIE SHAW 1938
 966 : JAY McSHANN 1944-46
 967 : MUGGSY SPANIER 1944-46
 968 : BUCK CLAYTON 1945-47
 969 : BILLY BANKS/JACK BLAND 1932
 970 : HARRY JAMES 1939-40
 971 : CHARLES BROWN 1946
 972 : JONAH JONES 1936-45
 973 : FATS WALLER 1939
 974 : SID CATLETT 1944-46
 975 : BUD FREEMAN 1946
 976 : GERALD WILSON 1945-46
 977 : BESSIE SMITH 1929-33
 978 : SKEETS TOLBERT 1931-40
 979 : CLIFF JACKSON 1930-45
 980 : CHARLIE PARKER 1945-47
 981 : COOTIE WILLIAMS 1945-46
 982 : ART TATUM 1945-47
 983 : ROY ELDRIDGE 1945-47
 984 : COLEMAN HAWKINS 1946-47
 985 : DUKE ELLINGTON 1945-46
 986 : DIZZY GILLESPIE 1946-47
 987 : LESTER YOUNG 1946-47
 988 : COUNT BASIE 1946-47
 989 : SARAH VAUGHAN 1946-47
 990 : BENNY GOODMAN 1938-39
 991 : MAXINE SULLIVAN 1938-41
 992 : LOUIS ARMSTRONG 1946-47
 993 : SKEETS TOLBERT 1940-42
 994 : LIONEL HAMPTON 1947...

Classics 500 to 892 are available.

CLASSICS 985

WOODY HERMAN AND DUKE ELLINGTON BANDS COMBINED: Taft Jordan-Shelton Hemphill-Cat Anderson-Francis Williams-Bernard Flood-Shorty Rogers-Sonny Berman-Irv Markowitz-Conrad Gozzo-t/Lawrence Brown-Claude Jones-Wilbur de Paris-Bill Harris-Ed Kiefer-Ralph Pfiffner-tb/Jimmy Hamilton-Woody Herman-cl/Johnny Hodges-Otto Hardwick-John LaPorta-Sam Marowitz-as/Al Sears-Mickey Folus-Filip Phillips-ts/Harry Carney-Sam Rubinowich-bar/Duke Ellington-Tony Aless-p/Fred Guy-Billy Bauer-g/Red Norvo-vib/Oscar Pettiford-Chubby Jackson-b/Sonny Greer-Don Lamond-d.

New York, January 16, 1946.
 V-Disc 648-B

JDB-67 "C" Jam Blues

NOTE: both previous sessions also labelled: **ESQUIRE ALL AMERICAN-JAZZ CONCERT.**

DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA: Duke Ellington-p dir. Cat Anderson-Bernard Flood-Scad Hemphill-Taft Jordan-Francis Williams-t/Lawrence Brown-Claude Jones-Wilbur de Paris-"Tricky Sam" Nanton-tb/Johnny Hodges-Otto Hardwick-as/Jimmy Hamilton-cl-ts/Al Sears-ts/Harry Carney-bar/Fred Guy-g/Oscar Pettiford-b/Sonny Greer-d.

New York, March 16, 1946.
 V-Disc 671-A

JDB-111 Unbooted Character

NOTE: spoken introduction by Irvin Glazer.

DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA: Harold Baker-t replaces Flood; Ray Nance-t-vn-v added; Russell Procope-as-cl replaces Hardwick; Kay Davis-v added.

Hollywood, July 9, 1946.

- D6VB-2093-1 Rockabye River
 D6VB-2094-1 Suddenly It Jumped
 D6VB-2095-2 Transblucency - vKD
 D6VB-2096-2 Just Squeeze Me - vRN

- Victor 40-0134
 Victor 20-3135
 Victor 20-2326
 Victor 20-1992

DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA: Al Hibbler-v replaces Davis.

Hollywood, July 10, 1946.

- D6VB-2097-1 A' Gathering In A Clearing
 D6VB-2098-1 You Don't Love Me No More - vAH
 D6VB-2099-1 Pretty Woman - vAH
 D6VB-2100-1 Hey! Baby - vRN

- Victor 20-4281
 Victor EPAT435 (EP)
 Victor 20-2325
 Victor LPV553 (LP)

CLASSICS 985



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Kay Davis



Ray Nance



Harry Carney

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DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA 1945 - 1946

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1945-1946

DUKE ELLINGTON

CLASSICS 985

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|----|---------------------------------|---------------|----------|------|----|----------------------------|---------------|----------|------|
| 1 | Perfume Suite - Coloratura | (D5VB-506-2) | 07-30-45 | 2:57 | 12 | Esquire Swank | (JDB-25) | 01-16-46 | 4:56 |
| 2 | Time's A-Wastin' | (D5VB-518-1) | 07-30-45 | 3:02 | 13 | "C" Jam Blues | (JDB-67) | 01-16-46 | 2:19 |
| 3 | Perfume Suite - Dancers In Love | | | | 14 | Unbooted Character | (JDB-111) | 03-16-46 | 4:40 |
| | | (D5VB-519-1) | 07-30-45 | 2:18 | 15 | Rockabye River | (D6VB-2093-1) | 07-09-46 | 3:02 |
| 4 | Carnegie Blues | (VP-1583) | 09-08-45 | 2:49 | 16 | Suddenly It Jumped | (D6VB-2094-1) | 07-09-46 | 2:46 |
| 5 | Tell Ya What I'm Gonna Do | (D5VB-662-1) | 10-08-45 | 2:45 | 17 | Transblucency | (D6VB-2095-2) | 07-09-46 | 2:58 |
| 6 | Come To Baby, Do! | (D5VB-663-1) | 10-08-45 | 2:45 | 18 | Just Squeeze Me | (D6VB-2096-2) | 07-09-46 | 3:23 |
| 7 | I'm Just A Lucky So And So | (D5VB-949-1) | 11-26-45 | 3:11 | 19 | A' Gathering In A Clearing | (D6VB-2097-1) | 07-09-46 | 3:07 |
| 8 | Long, Strong And Consecutive | | | | 20 | You Don't Love Me No More | (D6VB-2098-1) | 07-09-46 | 3:20 |
| | | (D5VB-950-1) | 11-26-45 | 2:54 | 21 | Pretty Woman | (D6VB-2099-1) | 07-09-46 | 2:41 |
| 9 | The Wonder Of You | (D5VB-951-1) | 11-26-45 | 2:45 | 22 | Hey! Baby | (D6VB-2100-1) | 07-09-46 | 2:45 |
| 10 | Tonk | (D6VB-1518-1) | 01-10-46 | 2:45 | | | | | |
| 11 | Drawing Room Blues | (D6VB-1519-1) | 01-10-46 | 3:35 | | | | | |

10, 11 DUKE ELLINGTON AND BILLY STRAYHORN. 13 WOODY HERMAN AND DUKE ELLINGTON BANDS COMBINED.
5, 6, 8, 9 JOYA SHERRILL VOCAL. 7, 20, 21 AL HIBBLER VOCAL. 17 KAY DAVIS VOCAL. 18, 22 RAY NANCE 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, 837, 851, 867, 881, 915 & 951.

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DUKE ELLINGTON

1945-1946

CLASSICS 985