



DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA 1946

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|-----------|---|----------|------|
| 1 | INDIANA (Hanley-Mac Donald)
<i>(D6VB-2113-1)</i> | 08-26-46 | 2:46 |
| 2 | BLUE IS THE LIGHT (Fisher)
<i>(D6VB-2114-1)</i> | 08-26-46 | 3:02 |
| 3 | LOVER MAN (Davis-Ramirez-Sherman)
<i>(D6VB-2115-1)</i> | 08-26-46 | 3:18 |
| 4 | JUST YOU, JUST ME (Greer-Klages)
<i>(D6VB-2116-1)</i> | 08-26-46 | 2:51 |
| 5 | BEALE STREET BLUES (Handy)
<i>(D6VB-2117-1)</i> | 08-26-46 | 2:52 |
| 6 | MY HONEY'S LOVIN' ARMS (Ruby-Meyer)
<i>(D6VB-2126-1)</i> | 09-03-46 | 3:07 |
| 7 | MEMPHIS BLUES (Handy)
<i>(D6VB-2127-1)</i> | 09-03-46 | 3:00 |
| 8 | I DON'T STAND A GHOST OF A CHANCE WITH YOU
<i>(D6VB-2128-1)</i> (Crosby-Washington-Young) | 09-03-46 | 3:00 |
| 9 | ST. LOUIS BLUES (Handy)
<i>(D6VB-2129-1)</i> | 09-03-46 | 2:56 |
| 10 | SWAMP FIRE (Mooney)
<i>(D6VB-2130-2)</i> | 09-03-46 | 2:50 |
| 11 | ROYAL GARDEN BLUES (Williams-Williams)
<i>(D6VB-2131-1)</i> | 09-03-46 | 3:06 |
| 12 | ESQUIRE SWANK (Hodges-Ellington)
<i>(D6VB-2132-1)</i> | 09-03-46 | 3:31 |
| 13 | MIDRIFF (Strayhorn)
<i>(D6VB-2133-1)</i> | 09-03-46 | 3:15 |

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|-----------|--|----------|------|
| 14 | DIMINUENDO IN BLUE (Ellington)
<i>(5765-1)</i> | 10-23-46 | 2:44 |
| 15 | MAGENTA HAZE (Ellington)
<i>(5766-1)</i> | 10-23-46 | 2:56 |
| 16 | THE GOLDEN CRESS (Ellington)
<i>(JDB-305)</i> | 11-23-46 | 5:12 |
| 17 | SULTRY SUNSET (Ellington)
<i>(JDB-325)</i> | 11-23-46 | 4:06 |
| 18 | DEEP SOUTH SUITE - PART 1 (MAGNOLIA'S DRIPPING WITH MOLASSES)
<i>(JDB-327)</i> (Ellington-Strayhorn) | 11-23-46 | 6:22 |
| 19 | DEEP SOUTH SUITE - PART 2 (HEARSAY OR ORSON WELLES)
<i>(JDB-328)</i> (Ellington-Strayhorn) | 11-23-46 | 4:43 |
| 20 | DEEP SOUTH SUITE - PART 3 (NOBODY WAS LOOKIN')
<i>(JDB-329)</i> (Ellington-Strayhorn) | 11-23-46 | 2:54 |
| 21 | DEEP SOUTH SUITE - PART 4 (HAPPY GO LUCKY LOCAL)
<i>(JDB-330)</i> (Ellington-Strayhorn) | 11-23-46 | 6:03 |

Taft Jordan photo courtesy of le Hot Club de France.

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 1004 : ERROLL GARNER 1946-47
 1005 : NAT "KING" COLE 1946-47
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 1024 : HERMAN CHITTISON 1944-45...

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CLASSICS 1015

DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA 1946

In September 1946, Duke Ellington's contract with RCA Victor came to an end. Apart from his work for V-Disc, the Duke had been recording exclusively for the label since March 1940. This body of work, now available in its entirety on Classics, constitutes one of the most important and beautiful series of all jazz recordings. The creativity of Duke Ellington and Billy Strayhorn together with a star-studded band and RCA's outstanding sound quality made up the ingredients of this uniquely successful formula!

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 last two studio sessions by the band for RCA on which Duke chose to turn in an usually high number of standards. Dick Vance's arrangement of "Indiana" features solos by Cat Anderson and Jimmy Hamilton. The beautiful "Lover Man" by Ram Ramirez presents singer Marion Cox, who worked briefly with the Duke Ellington band in the second half of 1946. The three greatest hits by W.C. Handy were occasionally played as a medley in concerts. These little-known studio versions include several exciting contributions from the leader and a terrific solo by Johnny Hodges on "Memphis Blues". "Swamp Fire" features Oscar Pettiford's wonderful, warm bass playing. Both "Esquire Swank" and "Midriff" were commissioned by the French Swing label and first issued in Europe. Duke Ellington and his band next turned in a series of recordings for the comparatively small Musicraft label : recorded in under 3 months, the first two of these tracks follow here. The remaining 13 performances for the company will be included in the next volume of this series. In strict chronological order, this CD ends with a string of V-Discs, all recorded during Ellington's annual concert at Carnegie Hall in New York : "Deep South Suite" was written for this event and first issued on two rare V-Disc. To be continued...

Anatol Schenker, June 1998.

CLASSICS 1015

DISCOGRAPHY DUKE ELLINGTON 1946

DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA: Duke Ellington-p dir. Taft Jordan-Shelton Hemphill-Cat Anderson-Francis Williams-Harold Baker-t/Ray Nance-t-vn-v/Lawrence Brown-Claude Jones-Wilbur De Paris-tb/Jimmy Hamilton-cl-ts/Johnny Hodges-as/Russell Procope-as-cl/Al Sears-ts/Harry Carney-bar-cl/Fred Guy-g/Oscar Pettiford-b/Sonny Greer-d/Marion Cox-Kay Davis-v.

D6VB-2113-1 (Back Home Again In) Indiana
 D6VB-2114-1 Blue Is The Light
 D6VB-2115-1 Lover Man - vMC
 D6VB-2116-1 Just You, Just Me
 D6VB-2117-1 Beale Street Blues

Los Angeles, August 26, 1946.
 Victor LPM553 (LP)
 Victor LPM6009 (LP)
 Victor LEJ4
 Victor LPM6009 (LP)
 Victor 20-2326

DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA: same.

D6VB-2126-1 My Honey's Lovin' Arms -vRN
 D6VB-2127-1 Memphis Blues
 D6VB-2128-1 I Don't Stand A Ghost Of A Chance With You -vKD
 D6VB-2129-1 St. Louis Blues -vMC
 D6VB-2130-2 Swamp Fire
 D6VB-2131-1 Royal Garden Blues
 D6VB-2132-1 Esquire Swank
 D6VB-2133-1 Midriff

Los Angeles, September 3, 1946.
 Victor 20-3135
 Victor 20-2325
 RCA PM42415 (LP) (France)
 Victor 20-2327
 Victor 20-1992
 Victor 20-2324
 Swing 230 (France)
 Swing 230 (France)

DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA: Duke Ellington-p dir. Taft Jordan-Shelton Hemphill-Francis Williams-Harold Baker-t/Ray Nance-t-vn-v/Lawrence Brown-Claude Jones-Wilbur De Paris-tb/Jimmy Hamilton-cl-ts/Johnny Hodges-as/Russell Procope-as-cl/Al Sears-ts/Harry Carney-bar-cl/Fred Guy-g/Oscar Pettiford-b/Sonny Greer-d.

5765-4 Diminuendo In Blue
 5766-4 Magenta Haze

New York, October 23, 1946.
 Musicraft 511
 Musicraft 483

DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA: Cat Anderson-t added.

JDB-305 The Golden Cress
 JDB-325 Sultry Sunset
 JDB-327 Deep South Suite (Part One) (Magnolia's Dripping With Molasse)
 JDB-328 Deep South Suite (Part Two) (Hearsay Or Orson Welles)
 JDB-329 Deep South Suite (Part Three) (Nobody Was Lookin')
 JDB-330 Deep South Suite (Part Four) (Happy Go Lucky Local)

New York, November 23, 1946.
 V-Disc 742-A
 V-Disc 742-B
 V-Disc 750-A
 V-Disc 750-B
 V-Disc 759-A
 V-Disc 759-B

NOTE : 305 & 327 have a spoken introduction by Leonard Feather.



7915 - 7.00



Cat Anderson



Taft Jordan

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DK 003

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DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA 1946



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CLASSICS1015 DUKE ELLINGTON 1946

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|----|--|---------------|----------|------|----|--|---------------|----------|------|
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(Magnolia's Dripping With Molasses) | (JDB-327) | 11-23-46 | 6:22 |
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(Happy Go Lucky Local) | (JDB-330) | 11-23-46 | 6:03 |
| 11 | Royal Garden Blues | (D6VB-2131-1) | 09-03-46 | 3:06 | | | | | |

3, 9 MARION COX VOCAL. 6 RAY NANCE VOCAL. 8 KAY DAVIS 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 & 985.

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