



## DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA 1949-1950

- |           |  |          |      |           |   |          |      |
|-----------|--|----------|------|-----------|---|----------|------|
| <b>1</b>  | <b>YOU OF ALL PEOPLE</b> (Ellington)<br>(CO-41687-1)                         | 09-01-49 | 2:54 | <b>14</b> | <b>UNTITLED BLUES</b> (unknown)<br>(4007)         | 09-13-50 | 2:31 |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>CREOLE LOVE CALL</b> (Ellington)<br>(CO-41688-1)                          | 09-01-49 | 2:54 | <b>15</b> | <b>OSCALYPSO</b> (Pettiford-Trotman)<br>(4007-1)  | 09-13-50 | 2:46 |
| <b>3</b>  | <b>THE GREATEST THERE IS</b> (Ellington)<br>(CO-41689-1)                     | 09-01-49 | 2:41 | <b>16</b> | <b>BLUES FOR BLANTON</b> (Ellington)<br>(4008)    | 09-13-50 | 2:42 |
| <b>4</b>  | <b>SNIBOR</b> (Strayhorn)<br>(CO-41690-1)                                    | 09-01-49 | 2:47 | <b>17</b> | <b>MEAN OL' CHOO CHOO</b> (unknown)<br>(4010)     | 09-21-50 | 2:51 |
| <b>5</b>  | <b>THE WORLD IS WAITING FOR THE SUNRISE</b> (Lockhart-Seitz)<br>(CO-42550-1) | 12-22-49 | 2:58 | <b>18</b> | <b>ME AND MY WIG</b> (Palmer-Hodges)<br>(4013)    | 09-21-50 | 2:47 |
| <b>6</b>  | <b>JOOG, JOOG</b> (Ellington)<br>(CO-42551-1)                                | 12-22-49 | 2:58 | <b>19</b> | <b>HOW BLUE CAN YOU GET</b> (Feather)<br>(4014)   | 09-21-50 | 2:15 |
| <b>7</b>  | <b>GOOD WOMAN BLUES</b> (Ellington)<br>(CO-42552-1)                          | 12-22-49 | 3:03 | <b>20</b> | <b>JUKE BOP BOOGIE</b> (Kemp-Ellington)<br>(4015) | 09-21-50 | 2:14 |
| <b>8</b>  | <b>ON THE SUNNY SIDE OF THE STREET</b> (Fields-McHugh)<br>(CO-42553-1)       | 12-22-49 | 2:42 | <b>21</b> | <b>SET 'EM UP</b> (Ellington)<br>(4016)           | 09-21-50 | 2:48 |
| <b>9</b>  | <b>B-SHARP BOSTON</b> (Ellington)<br>(CO-42554-1)                            | 12-22-49 | 2:52 | <b>22</b> | <b>NEW PIANO ROLL BLUES</b> (unknown)<br>(4017)   | 09-21-50 | 2:15 |
| <b>10</b> | <b>HELLO LITTLE BOY</b> (Ellington-Kemp)<br>(4000)                           | 02-11-50 | 2:47 | <b>23</b> | <b>THE MAN I LOVE</b> (Gershwin)<br>(4018)        | 09-21-50 | 2:44 |
| <b>11</b> | <b>THE GREATEST THERE IS !</b> (Ellington-Kemp)<br>(4001)                    | 02-11-50 | 3:01 |           |   |          |      |
| <b>12</b> | <b>PERDIDO</b> (Tizol)<br>(4005)   | 09-13-50 | 2:57 |           |   |          |      |
| <b>13</b> | <b>TAKE THE "A" TRAIN</b> (Strayhorn)<br>(4006)                              | 09-13-50 | 2:20 |           |   |          |      |

Special thanks to Léon Dierckx.  
Back photo by Erich Mohr.

## THE CLASSICS CHRONOLOGICAL SERIES

- |  |   |                                       |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1107 : COLINT BASIE 1947-49              | 1138 : ERROLL GARNER 1949               | 1169 : JAMES MOODY 1949-50            |
| 1108 : FATS NAVARRO 1947-49              | 1139 : WYNONIE HARRIS 1947-49           | 1170 : BUD POWELL 1949-50             |
| 1109 : ERROLL GARNER 1947-49             | 1140 : SIDNEY BECHET 1949               | 1171 : KENNY CLARKE 1946-48           |
| 1110 : PETE JOHNSON 1947-49              | 1141 : THE THREE KEYS/BON BON 1932-42   | 1172 : STAN GETZ 1950                 |
| 1111 : CHARLIE VENTURA 1946-47           | 1142 : BILLY ECKSTINE 1947              | 1173 : LUCKY MILLINDER 1947-50        |
| 1112 : SIDNEY BECHET 1947-49             | 1143 : GENE KRUPA 1945                  | 1174 : SONNY STITT 1946-50            |
| 1113 : LUCKY THOMPSON 1944-47            | 1144 : LOUIS ARMSTRONG 1947 (VOLUME II) | 1175 : JESS STACY 1944-50             |
| 1114 : MILDRED BAILEY 1937-38            | 1145 : RUSSELL JACQUET 1945-49          | 1176 : J.J. JOHNSON 1946-49           |
| 1115 : BUDDY JOHNSON 1947-49             | 1146 : LOUIS PRIMA 1937-39              | 1177 : EDDIE CONDON 1947-50           |
| 1116 : JAMES MOODY 1948-49               | 1147 : CHARLES BROWN 1947-48            | 1178 : HARRY JAMES 1942               |
| 1117 : TOMMY DORSEY 1938                 | 1148 : ERSKINE HAWKINS 1947-49          | 1179 : LOUIS ARMSTRONG 1949-50        |
| 1118 : THELONIOUS MONK 1947-48           | 1149 : CHARLIE VENTURA 1947-49          | 1180 : JOE TURNER 1949-50             |
| 1119 : DUKE ELLINGTON 1947-48            | 1150 : N.O.R.K. 1925-35                 | 1181 : GENE SEDRIC 1938-47            |
| 1120 : EARL HINES 1947-49                | 1151 : J. LUNCFORD'S ORCH 1948-49       | 1182 : ERROLL GARNER 1949 (VOLUME II) |
| 1121 : BOB HOWARD 1935-36                | 1152 : BOB HOWARD 1932-35               | 1183 : KID ORY 1945-50                |
| 1122 : VALAIDA SNOW 1937-40              | 1153 : ELLA FITZGERALD 1949             | 1184 : LENNIE TRISTANO 1946-47        |
| 1123 : RED NORVO 1936-37                 | 1154 : BENNY GOODMAN 1940-41            | 1185 : STAN KENTON 1950               |
| 1124 : BABS GONZALES 1947-49             | 1155 : NAT "KING" COLE 1947-49          | 1186 : SIDNEY BECHET 1949 (VOLUME II) |
| 1125 : HOWARD McGHEE 1945-46             | 1156 : TOMMY DORSEY 1938 (VOLUME II)    | 1187 : MILDRED BAILEY 1939            |
| 1126 : STAN GETZ 1946-49                 | 1157 : RED NORVO 1937-38                | 1188 : FRANKIE TRUMBauer 1927-28      |
| 1127 : ARTIE SHAW 1940                   | 1158 : VALAIDA SNOW 1933-36             | 1189 : JOHNNY HODGES 1945-50          |
| 1128 : WOODY HERMAN 1939                 | 1159 : CHARLIE BARNET 1936-37           | 1190 : SY OLIVER 1945-49              |
| 1129 : N.O.R.K. 1922-23                  | 1160 : MILDRED BAILEY 1938              | 1191 : DUKE ELLINGTON 1949-50         |
| 1130 : BLUE LU BARKER 1946-49            | 1161 : LIONEL HAMPTON 1949-50           | 1192 : RED NORVO 1938-39              |
| 1131 : BENNY GOODMAN 1940                | 1162 : COLEMAN HAWKINS 1947-50          | 1193 : LIONEL HAMPTON 1950            |
| 1132 : HARRY JAMES 1941-42               | 1163 : WOODY HERMAN 1939-40             | 1194 : CHARLIE BARNET 1937-39         |
| 1133 : CHARLIE BARNET 1933-36            | 1164 : REX STEWART 1948-49              | 1195 : ELLA FITZGERALD 1950           |
| 1134 : LOUIS JORDAN 1947-49              | 1165 : DODO MARMAROSA 1945-50           | 1196 : NAT "KING" COLE 1949           |
| 1135 : NAT "KING" COLE 1947 (VOLUME III) | 1166 : SARAH VAUGHAN 1949-50            | 1197 : TOMMY DORSEY 1938-39           |
| 1136 : JOHN HARDEE 1946-48               | 1167 : ARTIE SHAW 1940-41               | 1198 : OSCAR PETERSON 1949-50         |
| 1137 : BILLY TAYLOR 1945-49              | 1168 : DIZZY GILLESPIE 1949-50          | 1199 : HOT LIPS PAGE 1946-50...       |

"COMPLEMENTARY TRACKS" (CLASSICS 24) A TWO CD SET (PLUS A BONUS CD) INCLUDING 50 SIDES NOT RELEASED IN THE CLASSICS SERIES IS NOW AVAILABLE. CHICK WEBB, DON REDMAN, FLETCHER HENDERSON, AL COOPER, MIDGE WILLIAMS, LUIS RUSSELL, SLIM GAILLARD, TAFT JORDAN, OMER SIMEON... ARE AMONG THE ARTISTS FEATURED.

CLASSICS 1191

## DUKE ELLINGTON 1949-1950

In 1950, Duke Ellington's ongoing contract with Columbia was temporarily suspended and subsequently the leader, with key members of his orchestra, made a series of recordings for the short-lived Mercer label. Together with Ellington's son Mercer, Leonard Feather was in charge of these sessions. The critic and producer later remembered why these unusual records never became big sellers: "We were caught in the squeeze between the decline of the 78s and the start of the LP era; this proved to be the undoing of Mercer."

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 chronological recordings of Duke Ellington opens with two remaining sessions from 1949 for Columbia. Al Hibbler contributes the vocal on "You Of All People" and this is followed by a heartfelt solo from Ray Nance. "Creole Love Call" gets a fresh treatment from Kay Davis who takes over the vocal that has become associated with Adelaide Hall since her 1927 recording with Ellington (see Classics 542). "Sunny Side", possibly made at the request of his record company, leads on to the aforementioned tracks for the Mercer label. These tracks are quite unusual (in many ways). Firstly they feature several vocalists that otherwise would quite likely never have been given a chance to record with such stellar accompaniment. Chubby Kemp is a rough-and-ready singer who seems to have recorded only for this tiny company. Sara Forde, possibly the finest of the two, seems to have made just these two tracks. The *pièce de résistance* among the performances heard here are the four tracks by Oscar Pettiford. Although he had previously experimented with the cello during a short stint with Woody Herman, Pettiford had never before recorded on that instrument. "Perdido" and "Take The A Train", two real gems, rank among the best and most impressive performances by this giant. In addition, all recordings for Mercer (and this session with Pettiford in particular) profit from the great quality achieved by the sound engineers of the time. All in all, several little-known treasures by the Duke and his men may be discovered on this CD! To be continued...

Anatol Schenker, May 2001.

CLASSICS 1191

**DISCOGRAPHY DUKE ELLINGTON 1949-1950**

**DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA** : Duke Ellington-p-dir. Harold Baker-Al Killian-Nelson Williams-Dave Burns-t/Ray Nance-t-vn/Lawrence Brown-Quentin Jackson-tb/Tyree Glenn-tb-vib/Jimmy Hamilton-cl-ts/Johnny Hodges-as/Russell Procope-as-cl/Jimmy Forrest-ts/Harry Carney-bar-cl/Wendell Marshall-b/Sonny Greer-d/Kay Davis-Al Hibbler-Lu Elliott-v

CO-41687-1 You Of All People -vAH New York, September 1, 1949.  
 CO-41688-1 Creole Love Call -vKD Columbia 38606  
 CO-41689 The Greatest There Is -vLE Columbia 38606  
 CO-41690 Snibor FDC 1022 (LP) (Italy)  
 CBS 62993 (LP) (France)

**DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA** : Duke Ellington-p-dir. Ray Nance-t/Tyree Glenn-tb-vib/Johnny Hodges-as/Jimmy Hamilton-ts/Harry Carney-bar/Billy Strayhorn-p\*-celeste\*\*/Wendell Marshall-b/Sonny Greer-d/Al Hibbler-Lu Elliott-unknown group-v

CO-42550-1 \*The World Is Waiting For The Sunrise -vAH New York, December 22, 1949.  
 CO-42551-1 Joog, Joog -vLE/ch Columbia 30195  
 CO-42552-1 Good Woman Blues -vAH Columbia 30195  
 CO-42553-1 \*\* On The Sunny Side Of The Street -vLE Columbia 38702  
 CO-42554-1 B-Sharp Boston Columbia PE-7

**CHUBBY KEMP WITH BILLY STRAYHORN - JOHNNY HODGES SEXTET** : vocal acc. by Jimmy Hamilton-ts/Johnny Hodges-as/Harry Carney-bar/Billy Strayhorn-p/Wendell Marshall-b/Sonny Greer-d

4000 Hello Little Boy New York, February 11, 1950.  
 4001 The Greatest There Is Mercer 1950

**CLASSICS 1191**

**OSCAR PETTIFORD HIS CELLO & QUARTET** : Duke Ellington-p/Billy Strayhorn-celeste\*/Oscar Pettiford-cello/Lloyd Trotman-b/Jo Jones-d .

4005 Perdido New York, September 13, 1950.  
 4006 \* Take The "A" Train Mercer 1952  
 4007 Untitled blues Mercer 1959  
 4007-1 \* Oscalypto Mercer 1952 (error pressings)  
 4008 Blues For Blanton Mercer 1952  
 Mercer 1959

**CHUBBY KEMP & HER ALL STARS/THE ELLINGTONIANS WITH CHUBBY KEMP** (4014) : vocal acc. by Red Rodney-t/Johnny Hodges-as/Harry Carney-bar/Oscar Pettiford-cello\*/ Duke Ellington-p/Wendell Marshall-b/Max Roach-d.

4010 \* Mean Ol' Choo Choo New York, September 21, 1950.  
 4013 \* Me And My Wig Up-To-Date 2006 (LP)  
 4014 \* How Blue Can You Get Mercer 1971  
 4015 Juke Bop Boogie Mercer 1960  
 Mercer 1971

Note : 4011, 4012 will be featured on a Classics CD by Al Hibbler.

**SARA FORDE WITH MERCER ELLINGTON & HIS ORCH.** : vocal acc, by same.

4016 Set 'Em Up (Rack 'Em Back) Mercer 1960. same date.

**THE ELLINGTONIANS** : Sara Forde omitted.

4017 The New Piano Roll Blues Mercer 1958. same date.

**SARA FORDE WITH BILLY STRAYHORN AT THE PIANO** : vocal acc, by Billy Strayhorn-p.

4018 The Man I Love Mercer 1958. same date.

**CLASSICS 1191**



Chubby Kemp with Jimmy Hamilton (Frankfurt 1950).

1 1 9 1

1 1 9 1

# DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA 1949-1950

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



1949-1950

DUKE ELLINGTON

CLASSICS 191

- |    |                                      |              |          |      |    |                      |          |          |      |
|----|--------------------------------------|--------------|----------|------|----|----------------------|----------|----------|------|
| 1  | You Of All People                    | (CO-41687-1) | 09-01-49 | 2:54 | 13 | Take The "A" Train   | (4006)   | 09-13-50 | 2:20 |
| 2  | Creole Love Call                     | (CO-41688-1) | 09-01-49 | 2:54 | 14 | Untitled blues       | (4007)   | 09-13-50 | 2:31 |
| 3  | The Greatest There Is                | (CO-41689)   | 09-01-49 | 2:41 | 15 | Oscalypso            | (4007-1) | 09-13-50 | 2:46 |
| 4  | Snibor                               | (CO-41690)   | 09-01-49 | 2:47 | 16 | Blues For Blanton    | (4008)   | 09-13-50 | 2:42 |
| 5  | The World Is Waiting For The Sunrise | (CO-42550-1) | 12-22-49 | 2:58 | 17 | Mean Ol' Choo Choo   | (4010)   | 09-21-50 | 2:51 |
| 6  | Joog, Joog                           | (CO-42551-1) | 12-22-49 | 2:58 | 18 | Me And My Wig        | (4013)   | 09-21-50 | 2:47 |
| 7  | Good Woman Blues                     | (CO-42552-1) | 12-22-49 | 3:03 | 19 | How Blue Can You Get | (4014)   | 09-21-50 | 2:15 |
| 8  | On The Sunny Side Of The Street      | (CO-42553-1) | 12-22-49 | 2:42 | 20 | Juke Bop Boogie      | (4015)   | 09-21-50 | 2:14 |
| 9  | B-Sharp Boston                       | (CO-42554-1) | 12-22-49 | 2:52 | 21 | Set' Em Up           | (4016)   | 09-21-50 | 2:48 |
| 10 | Hello Little Boy                     | (4000)       | 02-11-50 | 2:47 | 22 | New Piano Roll Blues | (4017)   | 09-21-50 | 2:15 |
| 11 | The Greatest There Is !              | (4001)       | 02-11-50 | 3:01 | 23 | The Man I love       | (4018)   | 09-21-50 | 2:44 |
| 12 | Perdido                              | (4005)       | 09-13-50 | 2:57 |    |                      |          |          |      |

10, 11 CHUBBY KEMP. 12 TO 16 OSCAR PETTIFORD HIS CELLO & QUARTET. 17, 18, 20 CHUBBY KEMP & HER ALL STARS. 19 THE ELLINGTONIANS WITH CHUBBY KEMP. 21 SARA FORDE WITH MERCER ELLINGTON & HIS ORCH. 22 THE ELLINGTONIANS. 23 SARA FORDE WITH BILLY STRAYHORN AT THE PIANO.

1, 5, 7 AL HIBBLER VOCAL. 2 KAY DAVIS VOCAL. 3, 6, 8 LU ELLIOTT 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, 1015, 1051, 1086 & 1119.

MADE IN FRANCE © 2001 CLASSICS RECORDS

DISTRIBUTION FRANCE : MÉLODIE

1 1 9 1

1 1 9 1

CLASSICS

CLASSICS

DUKE ELLINGTON

1949-1950

CLASSICS 191