



DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA 1950

1	COTTON TAIL (Ellington) (5710)	10-03-50	2:55
2	C JAM BLUES (Ellington) (5711)	10-03-50	3:01
3	FLAMINGO (Grouya-Anderson) (5712)	10-03-50	3:03
4	BANG-UP BLUES (unknown) (5713)	10-03-50	3:07
5	THINGS AIN'T WHAT THEY USED TO BE (Ellington) (M-4023)	10-7-50	2:43
6	MAKE NO MISTAKE (Davis) (M-4024)	10-7-50	2:38
7	TONK (Ellington-Strayhorn) (M-2479)	11-7-50	2:59
8	JOHNNY COME LATELY (Strayhorn) (M-2480)	11-7-50	3:00
9	IN A BLUE SUMMER GARDEN (Ellington-Strayhorn) (M-2481)	11-7-50	4:07
10	GREAT TIMES (Ellington) (M-2482)	11-7-50	2:55
11	BUILD THAT RAILROAD (Ellington) (CO-44662-1)	11-20-50	2:41
12	LOVE YOU MADLY (Ellington) (CO-44663-1)	11-20-50	2:56
13	GREAT TIMES (Ellington) (CO-44664-1)	11-20-50	3:11

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14	THE TATTOOED BRIDE (Ellington) (CO-44749-1)	12-18-50	11:38
15	MOOD INDIGO (Ellington-Mills-Bigard) (CO-44750-1)	12-18-50	15:28

Photos by Erich Mohr.
Special thanks to Léon Dierckx.

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| 1133: CHARLIE BARNET 1933-36 | 1164: REX STEWART 1948-49 | 1195: ELLA FITZGERALD 1950 |
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| 1148: ERSKINE HAWKINS 1947-49 | 1179: LOUIS ARMSTRONG 1949-50 | 1210: CHARLES BROWN 1948-49 |
| 1149: CHARLIE VENTURA 1947-49 | 1180: JOE TURNER 1949-50 | 1211: JOE VENUTI 1926-28 |
| 1150: N.O.R.K. 1925-35 | 1181: GENE SEDRIC 1938-47 | 1212: RED NICHOLS 1925-27 |
| 1151: J. LUNCFORD'S ORCH 1948-49 | 1182: ERROLL GARNER 1949 (VOLUME II) | 1213: PEARL BAILEY 1944-47 |
| 1152: BOB HOWARD 1932-35 | 1183: KID ORY 1945-50 | 1214: KENNY CLARKE 1948-50 |
| 1153: ELLA FITZGERALD 1949 | 1184: LENNIE TRISTANO 1946-47 | 1215: CHARLIE VENTURA 1949 |
| 1154: BENNY GOODMAN 1940-41 | 1185: STAN KENTON 1950 | 1216: FRANKIE TRUMBARGER 1928-29 |
| 1155: NAT "KING" COLE 1947-49 | 1186: SIDNEY BECHET 1949 (VOLUME II) | 1217: DUKE ELLINGTON 1950 |
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| 1157: RED NORVO 1937-38 | 1188: FRANKIE TRUMBARGER 1927-28 | 1219: EDDIE HEYWOOD 1946-47 |
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| 1159: CHARLIE BARNET 1936-37 | 1190: SY OLIVER 1945-49 | 1221: SLIM GAILLARD 1947-51 |
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| 1162: COLEMAN HAWKINS 1947-50 | 1193: LIONEL HAMPTON 1950 | 1224: TEDDY WILSON 1947-50 |

"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.

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DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA 1950

Undeniably, the early fifties were difficult years for Duke Ellington. Despite having a contract with Columbia, the band was rather infrequently recorded. In addition, the peaks of Ellington's creativity have always paralleled the degree of public acceptance of his compositions and general appreciation of his band. Never since the early twenties, had the wider public cared less for big bands - including Duke's music - than around 1950. In spite of his economical problems Ellington continued to record music of very high quality.

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 recordings of Duke Ellington presented in chronological order, opens with ten tracks for Mercer. Eight of these suffered a strange fate. Originally conceived as 78 singles, they were made at a time when the industry was gradually switching to LPs and were thus issued on a very obscure 10-inch LP, which had limited distribution as Mercer left business soon after. This music was next re-issued in 1964 on Riverside - just before this label also stopped issuing records. This same LP was finally again on the market in the mid-eighties - when CDs came along. No wonder these outstanding piano-duos have attained near mythical reputation. Two additional tracks were issued under Wild Bill Davis' name with the Duke sitting in on "Things Ain't What They Used To Be", hence their inclusion here. The three next performances for Columbia are not very well known either. "Love You Madly" features a vocal by Yvonne Lanauze and a fine tenor solo by Paul Gonzalves. Born in 1920, Gonzalves had been with Count Basie between 1946 and 1949. After a few months with Dizzy Gillespie, he joined Ellington's band in 1950. This was his first studio session with the Duke. The remaining recordings had been around longer and this CD ends with a new adaptation of an old hit. To be continued...

Anatol Schenker, October 2001

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DISCOGRAPHY DUKE ELLINGTON 1950

BILLY STRAYHORN TRIO: Duke Ellington-Billy Strayhorn-p/Wendell Marshall-b.

		New York, October 3, 1950.
5710	Cotton Tail	Mercer M1001 (LP)
5711	C Jam Blues	Mercer 1954
5712	Flamingo	Mercer 1954
5713	Bang-Up Blues	Mercer M1001 (LP)

Note : M-4019, 20, 21 & 22 by Al Hibbler and the Ellingtonians will be featured on a Classics CD by Hibbler.

WILD BILL DAVIS AND HIS REAL GONE ORGAN: Duke Ellington-p/Wild Bill Davis-org/Johnny Collins-g/Jo Jones-d.
New York, late October 1950.

M-4023	Things Ain't What They Used To Be	Mercer 1955
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WILD BILL DAVIS AND HIS REAL GONE ORGAN: Ellington omitted.

M-4024	Make No Mistake	probably same date. Mercer 1955
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BILLY STRAYHORN TRIO: Duke Ellington-Billy Strayhorn-p/Joe Shulman-b.

		New York, November 1950.
M-2479	Tonk	Mercer 1963
M-2480	Johnny Come Lately	Mercer 1963
M-2481	In A Blue Summer Garden	Mercer M1001 (LP)
M-2482	Great Times	Mercer M1001 (LP)

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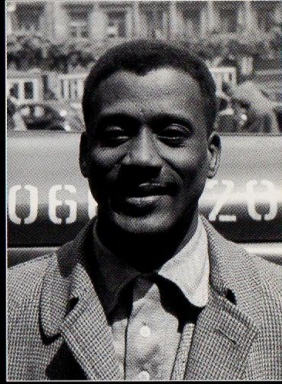
DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA: Harold Baker-Nelson Williams-Cat Anderson-Andres Merenguito-t/Ray Nance-t-vn/Lawrence Brown-Quentin Jackson-tb/Jimmy Hamilton-cl-ts/Johnny Hodges-as/Russell Procope-as-cl/Paul Gonsalves-ts/Harry Carney-bar-cl/Duke Ellington-p/Wendell Marshall-b/Sonny Greer-d/Al Hibbler-Yvonne Lanauze-v.

		New York, November 20, 1950.
CO-44662-1	Build That Railroad - vAH	Columbia 39110
CO-44663-1	Love You Madly - vYL	Columbia 39110
CO-44664-1	Great Times	CBS 88128 (LP) (France)

DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA: Mercer Ellington-flugelhorn ; Tyree Glenn-tb ; Bill Strayhorn-p added.

		New York, December 18, 1950.
CO-44749-1	The Tattooed Bride	Columbia ML4418 (LP)
CO-44750-1	Mood Indigo - vYL	Columbia ML4418 (LP)

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Ray Nance.



Left : Sony Greer, right : Johnny Hodges.

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DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA 1950

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



1 Cotton Tail	(5710)	10-03-50	2:55	8 Johnny Come Lately	(M-2480)	11-?-50	3:00
2 C Jam Blues	(5711)	10-03-50	3:01	9 In A Blue Summer Garden	(M-2481)	11-?-50	4:07
3 Flamingo	(5712)	10-03-50	3:03	10 Great Times	(M-2482)	11-?-50	2:55
4 Bang-Up Blues	(5713)	10-03-50	3:07	11 Build That Railroad	(CO-44662-1)	11-20-50	2:41
5 Things Ain't What They Used To Be				12 Love You Madly	(CO-44663-1)	11-20-50	2:56
	(M-4023)	10-?-50	2:43	13 Great Times	(CO-44664-1)	11-20-50	3:11
6 Make No Mistake	(M-4024)	10-?-50	2:38	14 The Tattooed Bride	(CO-44749-1)	12-18-50	11:38
7 Tonk	(M-2479)	11-?-50	2:59	15 Mood Indigo	(CO-44750-1)	12-18-50	15:28

1 TO 4, 7 TO 10 BILLY STRAYHORN TRIO. 5, 6 WILD BILL DAVIS AND HIS REAL GONE ORGAN.
11 TO 15 DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA. 11 AL HIBBLER VOCAL.
12, 15 YVONNE LANAUZE 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, 1119 & 1191 (1949-50).

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