

*The Essential*

**duke  
ellington**



# The Essential

## MC SERIES

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### DUKE ELLINGTON (1899-1974)

For over a half a century, Duke, the piano player, the composer, the orchestrator has never ceased recording his own music.

Everyone will agree with the fact that of the most "modern" versions of his compositions have been released by CBS between 1950 and 1960. Throughout along the twentieth century, Duke has been to jazz what Stravinsky has been to classical music, and what Picasso has been to paintings.

#### SIDE 1:

Clark Terry, Harold Baker, Cat Anderson, Francis Williams, Ray Nance, trumpet. Quentin Jackson, Britt Woodman, John Sanders, trombone. Jimmy Hamilton, Russell Procope, Johnny Hodges, Paul Gonsalves, Harry Carney, saxophone. Sam Woodyard, drums. Jimmy Woode, bass. Duke Ellington, piano.

Soloist: Nance. The Plaza Hotel, New York, September 9, 1958.

**1. TAKE THE "A" TRAIN** (Strayhorn) \_\_\_\_\_ 2'54  
Tempo Music © 1973 CBS Inc.

Rosemary Clooney, vocal. Cat Anderson, Willie Cook, Clark Terry, Ray Nance, trumpet. Quentin Jackson, Britt Woodman, John Sanders, trombone. Johnny Hodges, Russell Procope, Jimmy Hamilton, Paul Gonsalves, Harry Carney, saxophone. Sam Woodyard, drums. Jimmy Woode, bass. Duke Ellington, piano. January 23, 1956.

**2. SOPHISTICATED LADY** (Mills - Parish - Ellington) \_\_\_\_\_ 2'57  
Gotham Music Service © 1956 CBS Inc.

Clarke Terry, Shorty Baker, Ray Nance, Cat Anderson, Andres Ford, Willie Cook, trumpet. Quentin Jackson, Britt Woodman, John Sanders, trombone. Johnny Hodges, Russel Procope, Jimmy Hamilton, Paul Gonsalves, Harry Carney, saxophone. Sam Woodyard, Jimmy Johnson, drums. Jimmy Woode, Joe Benjamin, bass. Duke Ellington, piano.

Soloists: Carney, Nance, Carney, Terry. Newport, September 8, 1959.

**3. PERDIDO** (Drake - Lengsfelder - Tizol) \_\_\_\_\_ 4'29  
Tempo Music © 1960 CBS Inc.

Cat Anderson, Willie Cook, Clark Terry, Ray Nance, trumpet. Quentin Jackson, Britt Woodman, John Sanders, trombone. Johnny Hodges, Russell Procope, Jimmy Hamilton, Paul Gonsalves, Harry Carney, saxophone. Sam Woodyard, drums. Jimmy Woode, bass. Duke Ellington, piano.

Soloist: Hodges. Newport, July, 6/7, 1956.

**4. I GOT IT BAD AND THAT AIN'T GOOD** (Webster - Ellington) \_\_\_\_\_ 3'36  
Robbins Music © 1956 CBS Inc.

Ray Nance, trumpet. Britt Woodman, "Booty" Wood, Matthew Gee, trombone. Jimmy Hamilton, Russell Procope, Johnny Hodges, Paul Gonsalves, Harry Carney, saxophone. Jimmy Johnson, drums. Jimmy Woode, bass. Duke Ellington, piano.  
Soloists: Ellington, Carney, Nance. New York, December 2, 1959.

**5. IN A MELLOW TONE** (Ellington) \_\_\_\_\_ 2:39  
Robbins Music © 1960 CBS Inc.

Ray Nance, cornet. Lawrence Brown, trombone. Johnny Hodges, alto saxophone. Harry Carney, baritone saxophone. Sam Woodyard, drums. Aaron Bell, bass. Duke Ellington, piano.  
Soloist: Brown. Hollywood, July 14, 1960.

**6. MOOD INDIGO** (Mills - Bigard - Ellington) \_\_\_\_\_ 3:45  
Mills Music © 1979 CBS Inc.

Ray Nance, Willie Cook, Andres Meringuito, Eddy Mullins, Gerard Wilson, trumpet. Lawrence Brown, Britt Woodman, "Booty" Wood, Juan Tizol, trombone. Johnny Hodges, Russell Procope, Paul Gonsalves, Jimmy Hamilton, Harry Carney, saxophone. Sam Woodyard, drums. Aaron Bell, bass. Duke Ellington, piano.  
Soloists: Ellington, Nance, Hamilton (clarinet). June 30, 1960.

**7. HAPPY GO LUCKY LOCAL** (Strayhorn - Ellington) \_\_\_\_\_ 2:58  
Tempo Music © 1961 CBS Inc.

Rosemary Clooney, vocal. Cat Anderson, Willie Cook, Clark Terry, Ray Nance, trumpet. Quentin Jackson, Britt Woodman, John Sanders, trombone. Johnny Hodges, Russell Procope, Jimmy Hamilton, Paul Gonsalves, Harry Carney, saxophone. Sam Woodyard, drums. Jimmy Woode, bass. Duke Ellington, piano.  
Soloists: Clooney-Hodges, Hamilton (tenor saxophone), Terry, Carney, Clooney. January 27, 1956.

**8. IT DON'T MEAN A THING (If It Ain't Got That Swing)** (Mills - Ellington) \_\_\_\_\_ 2:49  
Mills Music © 1956 CBS Inc.

Clark Terry, "Shorty" Baker, Ray Nance, Cat Anderson, Andres Ford, Willie Cook, trumpet. Quentin Jackson, Britt Woodman, John Sanders, trombone. Johnny Hodges, Russell Procope, Jimmy Hamilton, Paul Gonsalves, Harry Carney, saxophone. Sam Woodyard, Jimmy Johnson, drums. Jimmy Woode, Joe Benjamin, bass. Duke Ellington, piano.  
Soloist: Hodges, Newport, September 8, 1959.

**9. THINGS AIN'T WHAT THEY USED TO BE** (Mercer - Ellington) \_\_\_\_\_ 2:55  
Tempo Music © 1960 CBS Inc.

SIDE 2:

Barney Bigard And His Jazzpatato. Cootie Williams, trumpet. Juan Tizol, trombone. Barney Bigard, clarinet. Harry Carney, baritone saxophone. Sonny Greer, drums. Billy Taylor, bass. Duke Ellington, piano.  
Soloists: Tizol, Williams, Carney, Bigard, Tizol. Hollywood, December 19, 1936.

**1. CARAVAN** (Tizol - Ellington - Mills) \_\_\_\_\_ 3:09  
American Academy of Music © 1937 CBS Inc.

Rosemary Clooney, vocal. Cat Anderson, Willie Cook, Clark Terry, Ray Nance, trumpet. Quentin Jackson, Britt Woodman, John Sanders, trombone. Johnny Hodges, Russell Procope, Jimmy Hamilton, Paul Gonsalves, Harry Carney, saxophone. Sam Woodyard, drums. Jimmy Woode, bass. Duke Ellington, piano. January 27, 1956.

**2. I LET A SONG GO OUT OF MY HEART** (Mills - Nemo - Redmond - Ellington) \_\_\_\_\_ 2:38  
Mills Music © 1956 CBS Inc.

Harold "Shorty" Baker, Cat Anderson, Ray Nance, trumpet. Quentin Jackson, Britt Woodman, John Sanders, trombone. Johnny Hodges, Russell Procope, Jimmy Hamilton, Paul Gonsalves, Harry Carney, saxophone. Sam Woodyard, drums. Jimmy Woode, bass. Duke Ellington, piano.  
Soloist: Ellington. New York, December 9, 1957.

**3. DANCERS IN LOVE** (Ellington) \_\_\_\_\_ 2:17  
Tempo Music © 1982 CBS Inc.

Ray Nance, cornet. Lawrence Brown, trombone. Johnny Hodges, alto saxophone. Harry Carney, baritone saxophone. Sam Woodyard, drums. Aaron Bell, bass. Duke Ellington, piano.  
Soloists: Carney, Ellington, Nance. Hollywood, July 14, 1960.

**4. SOMETHING TO LIVE FOR** (Ellington - Strayhorn) \_\_\_\_\_ 2:43  
American Academy of Music © 1979 CBS Inc.

Cootie Williams, Rex Stewart, Wallace Jones, trumpet. Joe Nanton, Juan Tizol, Lawrence Brown, trombone. Johnny Hodges, Otto Hardwicke, Barney Bigard, Ben Webster, Harry Carney, saxophone. Sonny Greer, drums. Jimmy Blanton, bass. Fred Guy, guitar. Duke Ellington, piano. Ivie Anderson, vocal.  
Soloists: Ellington, Webster, Ellington, Anderson. Chicago, February 14, 1940.

**5. SOLITUDE** (De Lange - Mills - Ellington) \_\_\_\_\_ 2:55  
Mills Music © 1940 CBS Inc.

Ray Nance, cornet. Lawrence Brown, trombone. Johnny Hodges, alto saxophone. Harry Carney, baritone saxophone. Sam Woodyard, drums. Aaron Bell, bass. Duke Ellington, piano.

Soloists: Ellington, Nance, Brown. Hollywood, July 14, 1960.

**6. BLACK BEAUTY** (Ellington) \_\_\_\_\_ 3'11  
Mills Music © 1979 CBS Inc.

Ray Nance, Cat Anderson, Willie Cook, Clark Terry, trumpet. Britt Woodman, John Sanders, Quentin Jackson, trombone. Johnny Hodges, Russel Procope, Jimmy Hamilton, Paul Gonsalves, Harry Carney, saxophone. Sam Woodyard, drums. Jimmy Woode, bass. Duke Ellington, piano.

Soloists: Ellington, Hodges, Anderson, Ellington, Jackson, Procope (clarinet). Anderson. Newport, July 7, 1956.

**7. BLACK AND TAN FANTASY** (Ellington - Miley) \_\_\_\_\_ 6'23  
Mills Music © 1982 CBS Inc.

Dizzie Gillespie, Ray Nance, Clark Terry, Cat Anderson, Shorty Baker, Andres Ford, trumpet. Johnny Hodges, Paul Gonsalves, Harry Carney, Jimmy Hamilton, Russell Procope, saxophone. Britt Woodman, Quentin Jackson, John Sanders, trombone. Duke Ellington, piano. Jimmy Woode, bass. Sam Woodyard, drums.

Soloists: Gillespie, Hamilton. New York, February 19, 1959.

**8. U.M.M.G.** (Strayhorn) \_\_\_\_\_ 4'28  
Tempo Music © 1959 CBS Inc.

*One of Duke Ellington's major secrets and qualities was his ability to keep his most important musicians with him and this during his entire career, and what a career!*

*From the ragtime era up to and including the post bebop era, Duke was able to stay modern and popular. As Benny Golson once said "Duke did everything and did it before everyone else".*

*Duke's harmonic conception made his orchestra sound bigger and fuller than the majority of the other bands existing. One of Duke's prides and a legitimate one, was his ability to write music that became almost instantly immortal; he could write standards! He could write popular music. At one time "Do nothing 'till you hear from me" was the n° 1 song in America, no small achievement!*

*What you will find in this collection are almost all standards and are by far the best versions recorded by the Duke Ellington orchestra.*


H.R.



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SIDE 1

1. TAKE THE "A" TRAIN
2. SOPHISTICATED LADY
3. PERDIDO

4. I GOT IT BAD AND THAT  
AIN'T GOOD
5. IN A MELLOW TONE
6. MOOD INDI GO
7. HAPPY GO LUCKY LOCAL
8. I DON'T MEAN A THING  
(If I Ain't Got That Swing)
9. THINGS AIN'T WHAT  
THEY USED TO BE

SIDE 2

1. CARAVAN
2. I LET A SONG GO OUT  
OF MY HEART
3. DANCERS IN LOVE
4. SOMETHING TO LIVE FOR
5. SOLITUDE
6. BLACK BEAUTY
7. BLACK AND TAN FANTASY
8. L.M.M.G.

Photo: CBS

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THE ESSENTIAL DUKE ELLINGTON

This MC contains previously released material.  
Design "THE ESSENTIAL" series : Guy Barot.  
Producer "THE ESSENTIAL" series : Henri Renaud.

DOLBY B NR

TAKE THE "A" TRAIN • SOPHISTICATED LADY • PERDIDO • I GOT  
IT BAD AND THAT AIN'T GOOD • IN A MELLOW TONE • MOOD  
INDIGO • HAPPY GO LUCKY LOCAL • IT DON'T MEAN A THING (If  
I Ain't Got That Swing) • THINGS AIN'T WHAT THEY USED TO BE

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**CBS**

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**1**

29:26



**THE ESSENTIAL  
DUKE ELLINGTON**

BIEM/STEMRA  
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CARAVAN • I LET A SONG GO OUT OF MY HEART • DANCERS IN  
LOVE • SOMETHING TO LIVE FOR • SOLITUDE • BLACK  
BEAUTY • BLACK AND TAN FANTASY • U.M.M.G.

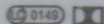
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**CBS**

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**2**

28:05



**THE ESSENTIAL  
DUKE ELLINGTON**

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