

JAZZ GUILD 1004

THE UNUSUAL



ELLINGTON

1004

THE UNUSUAL ELLINGTON –
DUKE ELLINGTON
AND HIS ORCHESTRA

1 STOMP, LOOK, AND LISTEN

2 WARM VALLEY

JAZZ GUILD

3 SULTRY SERENADE

4 H'YA SUE

5 PASSION FLOWER

Duke Ellington & His Orchestra

SIDE ONE

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THE UNUSUAL ELLINGTON –
DUKE ELLINGTON
AND HIS ORCHESTRA

1 PRIMPING FOR THE PROM

2 COBB'S TUNE

3 COFFEE AND KISSES

JAZZ GUILD

4 EASY TO LOVE

5 CHANGE MY WAYS

6 LIZA

7 BODY AND SOUL

Duke Ellington & His Orchestra

SIDE TWO

MANUFACTURED IN CANADA

THE UNUSUAL ELLINGTON DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA

There have always been arguments over which band of Duke Ellington's was his best. In fact his different musical periods have been evaluated in the same way that art collectors describe the different periods of Picasso painting. You will never get an argument when you discuss the best place that Ellington music was heard for most dual buffs will agree that an Ellington dance date was the best. Away from the concert hall and the recording studio, you find the band relaxed and in most cases having as good a time as the crowd they are entertaining. Such is the case in point of the music on this record. Most of it comes from performances at McElroys Ballroom in Portland, Oregon. We call it The Unusual Ellington because of the unorthodox selections he and the band play and the unusual "different" perform-

ance in the Ellington selections that we know so well. Both the McElroy dance dates come on Duke's birthdays in 1953 and 1954, *Passion Flower*, comes from a dance date on his birthday in 1952. The version of this tune is a case in point of why we call this album "The Unusual Ellington". *Passion Flower* was written by Billy Strayhorn in 1941 as a showcase for the alto sax of the great Johnny Hodges. Johnny was not in the 1953 Ellington band. Listen to the fantastic transposition of the solo from alto sax to a muted horn. The rest of the music on the record speaks for itself, over fifty minutes of true Ellington enjoyment.

"Maurice"

SIDE ONE

- (1) STOMP, LOOK, AND LISTEN (B) (Ellington) (4:00)
- (2) WARM VALLEY (B) (Ellington) (4:35)
Featuring: Paul Gonsalves
- (3) SULTRY SERENADE (B) (Ellington-Glenn) (3:40)
Featuring: Britt Woodman
- (4) H'YA SUE (B) (Ellington) (7:10)
Featuring: Quentin Jackson and Jimmy Hamilton tenor sax
- (5) PASSION FLOWER (A) (Strayhorn) (5:25)
Featuring: Quentin Jackson and Ray Nance

(A) Clark Terry, Willie Cook, Cat Anderson (trumpets) Ray Nance (trumpet and violin) Quentin Jackson, Britt Woodman, Juan Tizol (trombones) Paul Gonsalves, Jimmy Hamilton, Russell Procope, Willie Smith, Harry Carney (reeds) Duke Ellington, piano; Wendell Marshall, bass; Louis Bellson, drums

Yakima Armory, Yakima, Washington - April 29th, 1952

(B) Sub Rick Henderson, alto sax for Willie Smith and Butch Ballard, drums for Louis Bellson

McElroy's Ballroom, Portland, Oregon - April 29th, 1953

SIDE TWO

- (1) PRIMING FOR THE PROM (C) (Ellington) (2:31)
- (2) COBB'S TUNE (C) (Ellington-Cobb) (3:21)
- (3) COFFEE AND KISSES (C) (Strayhorn) (3:05)
- (4) EASY TO LOVE (C) (Porter) (2:14)
- (5) CHANGE MY WAYS (C) (Ellington-Latouche) (3:20)
Featuring: Ray Nance, violin
- (6) LIZA (C) (George and Ira Gershwin,
Featuring: Clark Terry and Kahn) (4:55)
Rick Henderson
- (7) BODY AND SOUL (D) (Green, Eytan, Heyman,
Featuring: Paul Gonsalves Sour) (6:18)

(C) Sub Dave Black, drums for Butch Ballard; John Sanders, trombone for Juan Tizol

McElroy's Ballroom, Portland, Oregon - April 29th, 1954

(D) Sub Jimmy Woode, bass for Wendell Marshall
Janzen Besch, Portland, Oregon - June 11th, 1955

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