

« The works of Duke Ellington » Volume II

Duke ElfIngton and bis orchestra

* Ozzle Ware with Duke Elflogton's Hot Five





1) Got everything but you (Palmer - Razaf) 2'56

2) The mooche (Ellington - Mills) 3'31 3) Santa claus, bring my man

back to me * (Porter Grainger) 2'53
4) I done caught you blues * 3'00

(Porter Grainger)

5) No papa no (Spivy) 3'20 6) No papa no (Spivy) 3'18

7) I can't give you anything but love (Fields - McHugh) 3'03

8) Bandanns bables 3'18 (Fields - McHugh)

Face 2

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Duke Effington and his orchestra

* Warren Mills and his Blue Serenaders



9) Oiga diga doo (Fields - McHugh) 2'58 10) I must have that man (Fields - McHugh) 3'17

11) Sami Louis blues * (W.C. Handy) 4'12

12) Flaming youth (D. Ellington) 3'16
13) Saturday night function (D. Ellington -

Bigard) 3'03 14) High life (D. Ellington) 3'04

15) Doin' the voom voom 3'10

(D. Ellington - Miley)

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Face 1

DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA 1) Got Everything But You

almos - A Barati 2) The Mooche (BVE 47.799-2) (D. Ellington - I. Mills)

OZZIE WARE WITH DUKE ELLINGTON'S HOT FIVE

3) Santa Claus Bring My Man Back (BVF 48 100-1) 4) I Done Caught You Blues (BVE 48 101-2)

DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA 5) No Papa No - Take 1

6) No Papa No - Take 2 (BVE 48.103-2) 7) I Cant Give You Anything But Love (BVE 48.102-4)

(BVE 48.166-2)

(BVF 49 007-2)

Face 2

8) Bandanna Bables

(Fields - McHugh)

DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA 9) Diga Diga Doo (BVE 48-167-2

10) I Must Have That Man (BVF 48 168-1)

WARREN MILLS AND HIS BLUE SERENADERS

11) Saint-Louis Blues (W.C. Handy)

DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA 12) Flaming Youth /BVE 49 652-2

13) Saturday Night Function (BVF 49 653-2) (D. Ellington, (BVE 49 654-1)

15) Doin' The Voom Voom /DVE 40 666 21 (D. Ellington, B. Miley) -

This second volume of the publication of the complete works recorded by Duke Ellington for RCA covers a part of the years 1928 and 1929. As in the first (RCA 731,043), the chronological order has The way Ellington finds his players is a mystery. Hardwicke, Whetso and Greer were friends of his in childhood or adolescence; Bubber and Tricky Sam were already part of the nucleus of elite New York musicians. But we must admire the discovery of Hodges and Carney, who at that time were adolescents and practically unknown. This flair with which Ellington detected new talent - and what talent the best alto and baritone saxophonists of their time - is really astonishing. But Ellington, it is said, never hesitates to bring a new musician into his orchestra, even if only for a few hours he has caused discographers the world over to feel that there are still greas of shadow to be lighted up.

This is the case in particular with the recording session of 30th October 1928. As Freddy Jenkins and Bubber Miley were absent. a temporary musician played with Whetsol. in the blues sung by Ozzie Ware and in No Papa No but his dentity is still unknown. Experts have of course brought a multitude of names forward. Cootie Williams the most often, probably because he is the easiest to think of. In spite of considerable research I have just had to leave this question open in the discographical documenlation prepared for this volume. My own impression is that this unknown musician with an unmistakable southern accent was no usual follower of the band. The trumpet-playing disciples of King Oliver were so numerous in New York that it could just as well have been Ed Allen as some unknown in all his glory.

The incurious reader may smile to see such problems of identification raised, but the obdurate collector, who will not be satisfied, has a thirst that commands attention. Would in help him to know that ten days later Freddy Jenkins came back again for I can't give you anything but love and the reason why only one number was recorded that day was that the orchestra after playing until five in the morning at the Cotton Club, began to doze off right in the studio after this love-song?

will notice, though, how arrangements began to increase in 1928. Before then, the reeds section carried the weight of the ensembles. The increase in trumpets from two to three corresponds to a clear change in the orchestral language. Saxophones were used the mixing of more varied sounds and clarinet trios often appear. But above all a real brass section came into being which Ellington



COMPLETE EDITION

VOLUME 2

uses with great success when he marries the violence of it to the delicacy of the reeds. The era of sumptuous backgrounds had not yet come but the forerunners are there.

128 was also the year when a soloist beyond compare entered the band, a player so completely at ease in the Ellington universe that for many he cannot be dissociated from it; the alto saxophonist Hodges. Magnifying the sonority of his instrument while keeping it distant from academic prettiness, using a terse phrasing, he created a new sesthetic as Coleman Hawkins had done before him for the tenor saxophone. His coming to Ellington to replace Otto Hardwicke who had left for France, was to be for Duke a stimulation to seek a counter to the jungle style. It coincides almost with the end of an era, that of Bubber Miley. The importance of the role played by this interpreter of the jungle style is brought to light both in this volume and the one preceding it. After Doin' the voom voom, Bubber Miley leaves the scene. Three years later, at the age of 29 he dies, leaving behind him a work of great significance of which the effects can be heard even as far as in "free" jazz. Curious ly enough, though, it is in Bix Beiderbecke that a le has been created. In Black and Tan fantasy and East St-Louis Toodle-oo puts over his dramatic force but here we often hear it i caustic form. Got everything but you is in a way his poetic art, sarcasm turning to the grotesque. He grates and growls in Flaming youth and Doin' the yoom yoom and attains in certain of the themes of the musical comedy of Fields and McHugh — Blackbirds o 1926 - the summit of his art. He shares the limelight of Bandanna Bables with Barney Bigard, surprising in his mastery, and Johnny Hodges. But in Diga Diga Doo he gives us, after the vocal duo, one

of those rare experiences that only lazz can offer. His solo on a background of slapping bass produces an extreme tension and it must be admitted that such an event is more often to be seen at a jam-session late in the night than in a recording studio. His companions in the same section are not just supernumeraries though. Their temperament leads them simply into other pathways Arthur Whetsol is the sweet soloist of the pure timbre of I can't give you anything but love and Got everything but you. But he can show vivacity as in Saturday night function or agreeably replace Bubber as in The Mooche. Freddy Jenkins, nicknamed Posey, liked to parade in front of the band when he took a solo. In High Life he sparkles with this bit of extravagance which is peculiar to him.
The vocalists also go in threes. Ozzie Ware sings with conviction is those rarities Santa Claus and I done caught you blues. The second

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DISCOGRAPHY

James "Bubber" Miley Arthur Wheteol (Ip), Joe "Tricky Bam" Nanion (Ib), Otto Hardericke (as) ; Harry Carney (bs. as) ; Albany "Barney Bigard (cl., ls) is Edward "Ouke Ellinjonn (p) ; Fred Guy (b)o) ; Wellman Braud (b) ; William New York, March (8), ISBN 1848 (b) ; William New York, March (8), ISBN 1848 (cl.)

New York, March 29, 1929.

2. 6. Arbur Whestol and an unknown musician (lp); "Tricky Sam" Nanion (lb); Johnny Hodges (as, es, cl); Harry Carney (bs, as, cl); "Barney" Bigard (cl, la); "Duke Ellington (pl); Fred Guy (b)o); Maybe Billy Teylor or Cyrus St-Clair (luba); "Sonry" Greet (df)

New York, Coclober 39, 1928.

3. - 4. An unknown trumpet-player, Barney Bigard (cl); "Duke" Ellington (p) maybe Billy Taylor or Cyrus St-Clair (b); Ozzle Ware (voc): same date.

6. - Same as for 2. - with Ozzie Ware (voc) added, same date - palme as for 2.- with Ozzie ware (yoc) access, palme care.
- Freddy Jenkins, Arthur Whestol (tp); "Tricky Sam" Nanion (tb); Jo
Hodges (ss); Harry Carney (bs, as); Berney Bigard (cl, is); "Duke" Ellir (p); Fred Guy (tp)6); Wellman Braud (b); "Sonny" Greer (dr); "Baby" Iving Mills (voc)
New York, November 10, 1928.

8. -9. -10. "Bubber" Miley, Freddy Jankins, Arthur Whetsol (tp); "Tricky Sam" Nanton (tb): Otto Hardwicke (as. bs. cl): Johnny Hodges (as. ss); Harry Carney (bs. as. cl): "Barney" Bigard (cl. ts): "Duke" Ellington (p); Fred Guy (bjo); Wellman Braud (b); "Sonny" Greer (dr); Ozzle Ware, Irving Mills

New York November 15 1928 11. Duke Ellington's band, as mentioned above but without Otto Hardwicke, Ozzie Ware and Irving Mills and with a white orchestre conducted by Matty Malneck including lp, tb, 3 saxes, 5 violons, p, g, tube, dr, and a group Maineck including tp, 10, o. of 9 singers December 20, 1928.

12 - 13 - 14 - 15 Same as for B - but without Otto Hardwicke, Ozzle Ware and rving Mills

DISCOGRAPHICAL NOTES

The trumpet-player Bubber Miley plays solo, generally using a mute, in the following numbers: Our everything but you except for the passage behind the except for a passage played open by Arthur Whestol, I must have that man, Saint Louis Blues, Flaming youth and Doint the voew woom, the short open passages in the last two numbers being played by Arthur Whestol was

passages in the last two numbers being played by Arinur Winstoli.

Wheteol is also he soloist in The mooche, I can't give you enything but love where Jenkins plays however behind Irving Mills vocat, and Baturday night function, Fredy Jenkins takes a solo in Highl, life where the short introduction is played by Bubber Miley. In Santa Claus, I done caught you blues and No Paga No, the temple player is unknown.

The clarinet solos are played by Barney Bigard who is also heard briefly on the tenor saxophone in High Life.

All the alto satophone solos are by Johnny Hodges except for the one in **Got everything but you** which is by Otto Hardwicke and those in **No Papa No** which are taken by Harry Carney who, besides, plays all the barilone satophone

For the other instruments the discography-given above should provide adequate

version of No Papa No is typical of the blues with a double meaning which flourished at the time. For the time being, Ozzie Ware sends her "papa" away no longer wishing, says she, to be his mechanic In Diga Diga Doo she is joined by Irving Mills, the singing impre-sario, who took the pseudonim of Goodle Goodwin. He is also present in I can't give you anything but love where the main dish is Baby Cox who is already renewing the instrumental vocal style with a great deal of swing. I shall take this opportunity to make it clear that contrary to what has often been stated. Baby Cox is not a name borrowed for Adelaide Hall and even less for Ida Cox. A singer and dancer performing mostly in the reviews, Baby Cox headed the bill of Hot Chocolates by Fats Waller with Edith Wilson and Jazzlips

Barney Bigard brings the creole seal to these recordings. Very lowdown in Saturday night function, he finds a vehicle suitable to his sinuous style with High Life, built on the harmonies of Tiger Rag where his virtuosity is given free rein. Hodges reveals in I must have that man a part of this remanticism which will make him famous a up, especially in The Mooche and Flaming Youth. Harry Carney on the baritone saxophone in Doin' the voom voom shares an unexpected halfchorus with Tricky Sam. On the alto in No Papa No. this disciple of Hardwicke shows that here he is undergoing the influence of Hodges. Tricky Sam Nanton himself, is often in the forefront. His concise style directly derived from that of Miley accentuates a violence of expression not without emotion. His contribution is essential to the jungle climate in No Papa No as in Saturday night function, in High Life as in Diga Diga Doo.
The inclusion of Saint Louis Blues, which has become an unex-

pected monstrosity, can only be explained by the desire to present the complete edition. The band has fallen into a trap laid by a mediocre white orchestra under the direction of an emulator of Paul Whiteman and is in addition stunned by the roughest kind of choir. The famous blues of W.C. Handy is very near to death when Bubber and Barney Bigard finally manage to revive it. Here we can measure the deepness of the ditch that separated the best jazz bands from the variety ensembles of the period. There would nevertheless be a lot to be written on the role of the rhythm section in Ellington or the exotic which is accentuated by the percussion in this classic The Mooche. But there is so much of beauty buried in this record that I have no doubt that you will find many other examples.