

UDCD 757

DUKE ELLINGTON / BLUES IN ORBIT

MFSL

DUKE ELLINGTON BLUES IN ORBIT

1. THREE J's BLUES - 2:51
2. SMADA - 2:35
3. PIE EYE'S BLUES - 3:25
4. SWEET AND PUNGENT - 4:00
5. C JAM BLUES - 4:50
6. IN A MELLOW TONE - 2:39
7. BLUES IN BLUEPRINT - 3:39
8. THE SWINGERS GET THE BLUES TOO - 3:07
9. THE SWINGER'S JUMP - 3:52
10. BLUES IN ORBIT - 2:25
11. VILLES VILLE IS THE PLACE, MAN - 2:26

UDCD 757
STEREO



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DSD
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ULTRADISC II™
GAIN 2-11 SACD Hybrid Disc



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BLUES IN ORBIT

DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS AWARD WINNERS

The time is midnight, December 2, 1959. The place, the Columbia Studio on East 30th Street. The band, Duke Ellington's. Recording at this hour may seem strange to some, but to Duke and his Band no hour of recording is strange or better than any other hour for recording. It could just as well have been at 8:00, as was the case with Duke's "Festival Session" (CL 1400/CS 8200). Actually, the reasons for this late recording hour were Duke's busy schedule and the unavailability of 30th Street at an earlier hour. (*This studio hardly shuts down at all; it is virtually an around-the-clock operation.*)

Well this particular night, things started to settle down after the first take, and from then on it was a wailing session. One blues tune after another was recorded until it was time for Duke's dinner at about 2:00.

The sizzling steak arrived along with two portions of American cheese, two halves of grapefruit, one large jar filled with black coffee and halves of lemon, and a small hamburger for me. I'm a little plump anyway, but I think I'll try Duke's diet next time.

We resumed recording after Duke had eaten part of his dinner, after everyone had a breather, and after I picked out my policy number for the following day.

"What's the name of the next one, Duke?" was my question over the intercom. "It's *Smada*," replied Duke.

"O.K., stand by, please." And then we were recording again and swinging. The session finished around 5:00 with five great new numbers on tape. Why

only five in five hours? Well, Duke and Billy Strayhorn had to take time out to write parts for the band since the copyist was nowhere to be found. We continued recording this album the following midnight. Things were pretty much the same as the night before, steak, black coffee with halves of lemon, American cheese, two halves of grapefruit, and a hamburger for me (*I'll change my diet next time*) and no copyist.

When Duke finished recording the eighth selection the second night, he said, "Teo, I guess that's it." My first reply was, "We only have eight, Duke."

He said, "Don't you have two from the other two sessions?"

"I'm not sure, Duke. Please, for me, would you do one more?"

"O.K. . . . Let's go guys," and he finished out in a blaze of glory with a blowing blues featuring most of his men.

I wonder what happened to the copyist.

Duke Ellington, in a way, is like Stravinsky or Picasso in that he never settles for the comfortable way. He is always seeking and trying new ways, both with his band and the pen, with which to broaden his musical horizons. Every album, every performance with Duke is a memorable one. There just doesn't seem to be any limit to his creativeness.

Some of you may not be able to hear this album before purchasing it because of one thing or another but, take it from me, it's wonderful. This might be a little presumptuous of me, but, nevertheless—man, it's great!

Primarily, this is a blues album. There's no denying that the blues can be happy as well as sad, fast as well as slow, and dissonant as well as tonal. You have them all here, and all by Duke Ellington and his Award Winners. Why Award Winners? BECAUSE THEY ARE!

Original Notes by Teo Macero



Photo courtesy of Jim Marshall.

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The selections are followed by their timings,
the publisher is Tempo Music, Inc. (ASCAP) unless otherwise noted.

1. THREE J's BLUES - 2:51
(Jimmy Hamilton)

2. SMADA - 2:35
(Billy Strayhorn)

3. PIE EYE'S BLUES - 3:25
(Duke Ellington) - Comstock Music, Inc. (ASCAP)

4. SWEET AND PUNGENT - 4:00
(Duke Ellington/Billy Strayhorn)

5. C JAM BLUES - 4:50
(Duke Ellington) - Robbins Music Corp. (ASCAP)

6. IN A MELLOW TONE - 2:39
(Duke Ellington) - Robbins Music Corp. (ASCAP)

7. BLUES IN BLUEPRINT - 3:39
(Duke Ellington)

8. THE SWINGERS GET THE BLUES TOO - 3:07
(Mathew Gee /Duke Ellington)

9. THE SWINGER'S JUMP - 3:52
(Mathew Gee Jr.)

10. BLUES IN ORBIT - 2:25
(Duke Ellington/Billy Strayhorn)

11. VILLE VILLE IS THE PLACE, MAN - 2:26
(Duke Ellington)

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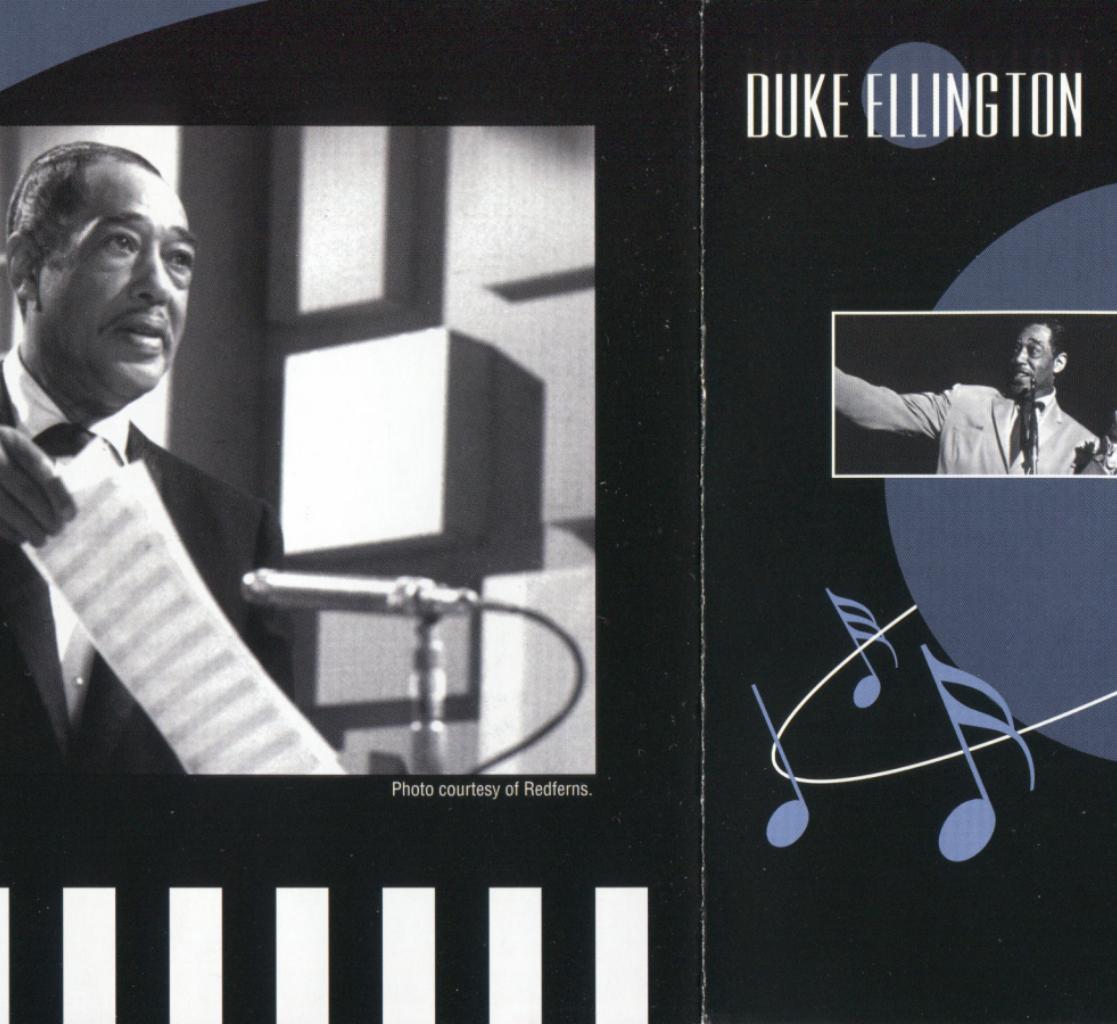
TITLE:	
1. THREE J's BLUES	
2. SMADA	
3. PIE EYE'S BLUES	
4. SWEET AND PUNGENT	
5. C JAM BLUES	
6. IN A MELLOW TONE	
7. BLUES IN BLUEPRINT	
8. THE SWINGERS GET THE BLUES TOO	MATHEW GEE & DUKE ELLINGTON
9. THE SWINGER'S JUMP	MATHEW GEE JR.
10. BLUES IN ORBIT	DUKE ELLINGTON & BILLY STRAYHORN
11. VILLES VILLE IS THE PLACE, MAN	DUKE ELLINGTON JOHNNIE HODGES HARRY CARNEY RAY NANCE

COMPOSER:

JIMMY HAMILTON
BILLY STRAYHORN

SOLOISTS:

DUKE ELLINGTON	JIMMY HAMILTON	TENOR SAX
DUKE ELLINGTON	JOHNNIE HODGES	ALTO
DUKE ELLINGTON	RAY NANCE	TRUMPET
DUKE ELLINGTON & BILLY STRAYHORN	JIMMY HAMILTON	TENOR
DUKE ELLINGTON	JIMMY HAMILTON	AD-LIB CLARINET
DUKE ELLINGTON	BOOTY WOOD	TROMBONE
DUKE ELLINGTON	RAY NANCE	VIOLIN
DUKE ELLINGTON	MATHEW GEE JR.	FIRST TROMBONE SOLO
DUKE ELLINGTON	PAUL GONZALVES	TENOR
DUKE ELLINGTON	BOOTY WOOD	TROMBONE SOLO
DUKE ELLINGTON	JIMMY HAMILTON	CLARINET
DUKE ELLINGTON	HARRY CARNEY	BARITONE SAX
DUKE ELLINGTON	RAY NANCE	TRUMPET
DUKE ELLINGTON	HARRY CARNEY	BASS CLARINET
DUKE ELLINGTON	JIMMY WOOD	BASS
DUKE ELLINGTON	RAY NANCE	TRUMPET
DUKE ELLINGTON	MATHEW GEE JR.	BARITONE HORN
DUKE ELLINGTON	RAY NANCE	TRUMPET
DUKE ELLINGTON	JOHNNIE HODGES	ALTO SAX
DUKE ELLINGTON	JOHNNIE HODGES	ALTO SAX
DUKE ELLINGTON	RAY NANCE	TRUMPET
DUKE ELLINGTON	JIMMY HAMILTON	TENOR SAX
DUKE ELLINGTON	BOOTY WOOD	TROMBONE
DUKE ELLINGTON	JIMMY HAMILTON	CLARINET
DUKE ELLINGTON	DUKE ELLINGTON	PIANO



DUKE ELLINGTON

BLUES IN ORBIT

ORIGINAL MASTER RECORDING™

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DUKE ELLINGTON · BLUES IN ORBIT

DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS AWARD WINNERS

BLUES IN ORBIT • THE SWINGER'S JUMP • PIE EYE'S BLUES
VILLES VILLE IS THE PLACE, MAN • IN A MELLOW TONE • SMADA
BLUES IN BLUEPRINT • THE SWINGERS GET THE BLUES TOO
SWEET AND PUNGENT • THREE J'S BLUES • C JAM BLUES

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