

# ELLINGTONIA



East St. Louis toodle-o  
Black and tan fantasy  
The mooche  
Saturday night function

Duke Ellington  
and his Orchestra

**PHILIPS**





# Ellingtonia - vol. 1

DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA

## Side 1:

East St. Louis toodle-o  
Black and tan fantasy

## Side 2:

The mooche  
Saturday night function

"It don't mean a thing, if it ain't got that swing." This piece of advice is given by the leader of one of the world's oldest and largest jazz groups - Duke Ellington, or, simply, The Duke!

Edward Kennedy Ellington was born in Washington D.C. on April 29, 1899, and started studying the piano in 1906. At the Armstrong High School, he received lessons from Henry Grant, and in 1916 (after having become interested in ragtime piano players) he took his first professional job. Soon he was earning a good living playing pigs and one nighters here and there. In 1918, he began to become famous. He toured the Washington area with sidemen Sonny Greer (drs), Arthur Whetsel (trp), Otto Hardwick (bass and sax), and Elmer Snowden (bjo). With these men he made, in 1922, his first trip to New York, where he joined the Wilbur Sweatmen group. It was the famous "Fats" Waller who kept the band touring around New York until Elmer Snowden took the leadership when they started to play at Barron's in Harlem. The name of this orchestra was "The Washingtonians." Although they worked under that name in the Kentucky Club, records were made by "Duke Ellington and his Kentucky Club Orchestra." From that moment on, individual solo styles and orchestral ideas began to develop.

This EP - The 'Twenties - is the first of a row of five extraordinary recordings. The second, third, and fourth represent the Duke's fine orchestras of the 'thirties, the 'forties, and the 'fifties, and the fifth is devoted to his "New Recordings of Great Standards."

Volume one features the first three pieces in the so-called Ellingtonian "Jungle Style," dominated by growling brass and heavy arrangements (Tricky Sam and Bubber Mile).

# the 'twenties



429 807 BE

## Personnel and dates:

1. **East St. Louis toodle-o**: recorded on March 22, 1927  
Bubber Mile, Louis Metcalfe (trp.) - Jon "Tricky Sam" Nanton (trb.) - Otto Hardwick (alt, sopr. and bass-sax) - Harry Carney (alt, bar.sax and cl.) - Rudy Jackson (cl. and ten.sax) - Duke Ellington (pno) - Fred Guy (bjo.) - "Boss" Edwards (tuba) - Sonny Greer (drs.).
2. **Black and tan fantasy**: recorded on November 3, 1927  
Personnel same as on no. 1 - Jabbo Smith replaces Bubber Mile (trp.).
3. **The mooche**: recorded on October 1, 1928  
Personnel same as on no. 1 - Wellman Braud (bss) replaces Edwards - Bigard replaces Jackson (cl. and ten.sax) - Johnny Hodges (alt. and sopr.sax) replaces Hardwick.  
Added: Arthur Whetsel (trp.) - Lonnie Johnson (gtr.) - Baby Cox (voc.).
4. **Saturday night function**: recorded on May 28, 1929  
Arthur Whetsel (trp.) - Sam Nanton (trb.) - Johnny Hodges (alt.sax) - Barney Bigard (cl. and ten.sax) - Duke Ellington (pno) - Wellman Braud (bss) - Sonny Greer (drs) - Fred Guy (bjo.).

## Great Ellington recordings on Philips 45:

ELLINGTONIA - vol. 2 429 808 BE  
Incl.: It don't mean a thing - Solitude - Caravan

ELLINGTONIA - vol. 3 429 809 BE  
Incl.: Mood indigo - Lady of the lavender mist

ELLINGTONIA - vol. 4 429 810 BE  
Incl.: Things ain't what they used to be - All of me

ELLINGTONIA - vol. 5 429 811 BE  
Incl.: Take the "A" train - Mood indigo - The mooche

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