

DUKE ELLINGTON & his Orchestra Hotel Sherman, Chicago Sept. 6 - Oct. 17, 1940

For DESS and DESUK members only

DESS CD 4

Duke Ellington and his Famous Orchestra at Hotel Sherman, Chicago, 1940.

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Duke Ellington at Hotel Sherman, Chicago.

Duke Ellington and his orchestra played in the Hotel Sherman five times. Three of them were one-nighters. In 1940 and 1942, the engagements stretched over several weeks, and it is 1940 that is presented on this CD issue.

Duke and his band were originally contracted for a period running from September 6 through 17, 1940. They were supposed to be followed by Benny Goodman and his band, but Goodman was hospitalized at the time. Thus, Ellington's engagement was prolonged for another month until October 17.

The Sherman Hotel has a long history. It was originally built in the middle of the 19th century, damaged due to a fire, and rebuilt in 1873. Later, it was demolished and rebuilt again. Duke played at the fourth rebuilt Sherman. It was finally demolished in 1973 never to be rebuilt. The site now houses a modern business building. Over the years during Sherman's existence its dancehall had various names. Most commonly, it was known as "The College Inn", but during Ellington's appearance it was "The Panther Room".

The Panther Room had a radio wire and the band was broadcasted over various radio stations. Several of these broadcasts have been saved on acetates and partly issued on several LPs over the years. They may be found on DJM 8020, Everybodys 3005, Jazz Guild 1006, Max 1003, Rarities 56. 70 and Queen 007. All of these issues only cover fractions of material from Duke's Sherman days. However, the LPs Jazz Supreme 704 and 705 cover almost everything that was broadcasted. The dates of these broadcasts have been doubtful over many years, but we have good reason to believe that New DESOR shows the correct dates. The LPs mentioned above can only be acquired on the second hand market and are not easy to come by. Most of them were issued in the 1970/80s. The sound on these LPs is far from perfect. As far as we know, no CD with this material has as yet been issued.

With this CD, we want to present our members with selected performances from Duke Ellington's 1940 appearance at the Hotel Sherman. We are of the firm opinion that the sound quality is superior to the LP versions. Please enjoy! Bo Haufman.



Chicago Daily News, 5Sep40

DUKE ELLINGTON & His Orchestra From Hotel Sherman's Panther Room Sept/Oct 1940

New DECOR Cast 11 1040

New DECOR

Sept.7, 1940

Sept. 7, 1940	New DESOR	Sept. 11, 1940	New DESOR
1. Theme & intro	4020a	16. Whispering Grass	4022d
(Sepia Panorama)		17. The Mystery Song	4022e
2. Stompy Jones	4020b	18. Warm Valley (nc)	4022f
3. Gal From Joe's (nc)	4020c	Sept. 12, 1940	
4. Me And You (nc)	4020d	19. Madam Will Drop Her	4023b
5. In A Mellotone	4020e	Shawl	
6. Chatterbox	4020f	20. Blue Goose	4023c
7. Echoes Of Harlem (nc)) 4020g	21. Slap Happy	4023e
8. St Louis Blues (nc)	4020h	22. Rockin' In Rhythm	4023h
Sept. 10, 1940		Sept 13, 1940	
9. Theme & intro	4021a	23. Maybe	4024b
(Sepia Panorama)		24. Harlem Air Shaft (nc)	4024f
10. Rumpus In Richmond	4021b	Sept./Oct., 1940	
11. You Think Of Everyth	ing 4021c	25. Stardust (nc)	4028g
12. My Greatest Mistake	4021d	26. Subtle Lament	4028h
13. Bojangles (nc)	4021e	27. It's The Same Old Story	4028i
14. Azure	4021f	28. Cottontail	4028j
15. Five O'Clock Whistle	4021g	29. At A Dixie Roadside Dir	er 4028m
		30. Black Beauty	4028n

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