

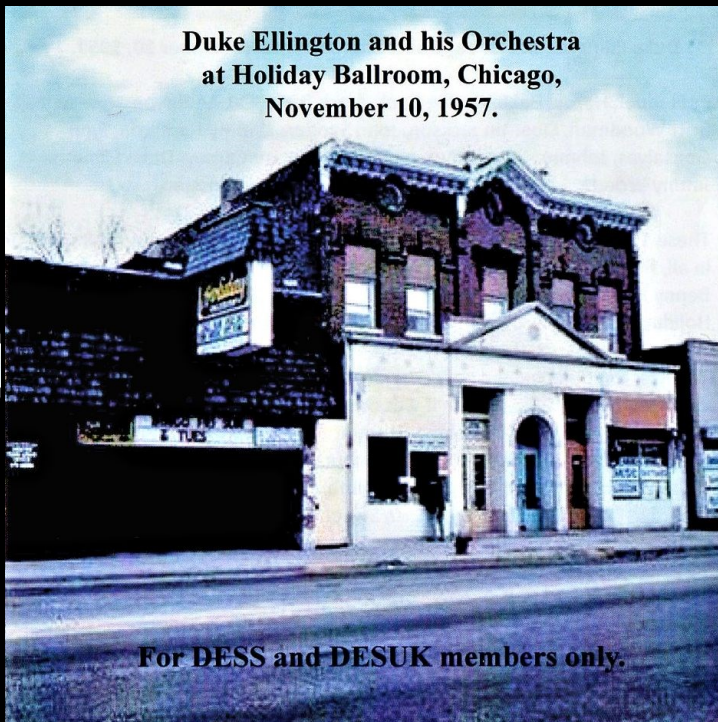


**Duke Ellington and his Orchestra  
at Holiday Ballroom, Chicago,  
November 10, 1957.**

*For DESS and DESUK members only*

**DESS CD 5**

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### Duke Ellington at Holiday Ballroom, Chicago. November 10, 1957.

Personnel: Harold Baker, Willie Cook, Clark Terry, Cat Anderson, Ray Nance, Britt Woodman, Quentin Jackson, John Sanders, Jimmy Hamilton, Paul Gonsalves, Johnny Hodges, Russell Procope, Harry Carney, Duke Ellington, Jimmy Woode, Sam Woodyard, Ozzie Bailey, Jimmy Grissom.

These 19 tracks are selected from previously unissued recordings, 38 titles in all, from a Chicago dance date in late 1957, formerly in the collection of Benny Åslund, the founder of DEMS, and now in the care of DESS. The Holiday Ballroom was located at 4847 North Milwaukee Avenue in the Jefferson Park area of the city. Formerly an 800-seater cinema, the Times Theatre, the building had only recently become a dancehall. It would survive until the 1980s, when it was demolished for redevelopment.

Duke was very busy after his success at the 1956 Newport Festival, and this one-nighter at an unremarkable suburban venue was one of many in his hectic touring schedule. In the Columbia studios he had recently recorded *Ellington Indigos* and *Such Sweet Thunder*, three movements from which were played at the dance, and he was about to re-record the 1944 *Perfume Suite*. For Norman Granz the band had recorded for Ella Fitzgerald's *Ellington Songbook*, and for a Johnny Hodges LP. But performing for audiences, and especially for dancers, was always paramount. There is an appealing looseness about the music captured here.

On *Creole Love Call* Duke plays the 'Adelaide Hall' obligatos to the

clarinet trio which Willie Cook usually supplied. These are the last known versions of two Cat Anderson contributions to the dancehall book, *Blue Jean Beguine*, on which John Sanders takes Juan Tizol's opening solo, and *(The) Happy One*. Strayhorn's calypso *What Else Can You Do With A Drum?* was topical because *A Drum Is A Woman* had been screened on TV in May.

The casual sounding *In The Mood*, which seems to drag from the tempo Duke sets up at the piano, is the last known version. Eddie Lambert says that Russell Procope's curious vibrato apparently came about when Duke heard him noodling in this manner while warming up. Jimmy Grissom sings the last known vocal *Flamingo* on record, and Ray Nance takes two fine violin choruses on *Blue Moon*. Notice also Grissom scatting on *Love You Madly*.

An absorbing piano solo introduces the only known 1950s *What Am I Here For*, on which Jackson, Terry and Gonsalves inherit the roles of Nanton, Stewart and Webster. After Paul's *Wailing Interval* the spotlight falls briefly on Jimmy Woode before the band launches into a *Crescendo* which is notable for Cat's startling launch into the climactic coda. *Autumn Leaves*, the earliest live version of the song recently recorded for *Ellington Indigos*, is interesting for Ozzie Bailey's brave stab at Jacques Prévert's text. He would have benefited from Stryhorn's guidance with the language, but even so he brings it off. I doubt if many of the Jefferson Park dancers were checking his French.

Enjoy this fascinating souvenir of the great late 1950s band at a workday Venue in suburban Chicago!

Roger Boyes

**DUKE ELLINGTON & His Orchestra**  
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<u>Titel</u>	<u>Composer</u>	<u>New DESOR</u>
1. Creole Love Call	D. Ellington	5743a
2. Blue Jean Beguine	Cat Anderson	5743c
3. Happy One	D. Ellington	5743d
4. What Else Can You Do .....	D. Ellington/B. Strayhorn	5743i
5. In The Mood	Joe Garland	5743q
6. Flamingo	T. Grouya/E. Anderson	5743r
7. Do Nothin' Till You Hear ...	D. Ellington/B. Russell	5743s
8. Blue Moon	R. Rodgers/L. Hart	5743t
9. Mambo Jambo	P. Prado	5743u
10. Mambo Jambo	P. Prado	5743v
11. Such Sweet Thunder	D. Ellington/B. Strayhorn	5743w
12. Star-Crossed Lovers	D. Ellington/B. Strayhorn	5743x
13. Passion Flower	B. Strayhorn	5743y
14. Madness In Great Ones	D. Ellington/B. Strayhorn	5743z
15. What Am I Here For?	D. Ellington	5743ab
16. Diminuendo In Blue	D. Ellington	5743ac
Wailing Interval		5743ad
Crescendo In Blue	D. Ellington	5743ae
17. Autumn Leaves	J. Kosma/J. Prevert/J. Mercer	5743af
18. Mambo Jambo	P. Prado	5743ah
19. Love You Madly	D. Ellington	5743ai