



Smithsonian

National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to the Don Brown Collection of Duke Ellington Recordings

NMAH.AC.0472

Reuben Jackson

2003

Archives Center, National Museum of American History
P.O. Box 37012
Suite 1100, MRC 601
Washington, D.C. 20013-7012
Business Number: Phone: 202-633-3270
Fax Number: Fax: 202-786-2453
archivescenter@si.edu
<https://americanhistory.si.edu/archives>

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Collection Overview

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Repository: | Archives Center, National Museum of American History |
| Title: | Don Brown Collection of Duke Ellington Recordings |
| Date: | 1925-1973 |
| Identifier: | NMAH.AC.0472 |
| Creator: | Ellington, Duke, 1899-1974 Brown, Don, 1923-1985 |
| Extent: | 39 Boxes |
| Language: | English . |
| Summary: | An extensive collection of commercial recordings by Duke Ellington and his orchestra. |

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

The collection was purchased from Brown's widow Darlene Brown in 1992.

Processing Information

Collection processed by Rueben Jackson, 2003

Preferred Citation

Don Brown Collection of Duke Ellington Recordings, 1925-1973, Archives Center, National Museum of American History.

Restrictions on Access

Collection is open for research but is stored off-site and special arrangements must be made to work with it. Contact the Archives Center for information at archivescenter@si.edu or 202-633-3270.

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Biographical Note

Disc jockey, musician, owner of a record store, published a newsletter called *Record Finder* 1956-1977.

Scope and Contents

Nine hundred twenty-eight recordings by Duke Ellington's orchestra, of which seven hundred ninety-six were commercially issued, and one hundred thirty-two unissued, which are studio test pressings, concert recordings and recordings done from radio and television broadcasts.

Arrangement

1 series.

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

- Concerts
- Jazz
- Radio broadcasts
- Television broadcasting of music

Types of Materials:

- Audiocassettes
- Audiotapes -- Open reel
- Sound recordings -- Phonograph records -- Discs
- Test pressings

Container Listing

Series 1: Audio Recordings

| | |
|--------|---------------------------------------|
| Box 1 | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 2 | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 3 | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 4 | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 5 | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 6 | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 7 | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 8 | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 9 | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 10 | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 11 | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 12 | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 13 | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 14 | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 15 | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 16 | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 17 | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 18 | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 19 | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 20 | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |

| | |
|---------|---------------------------------------|
| Box 21 | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 22 | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 23 | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 24 | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 25 | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 26A | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 26B | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 27A | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 27B | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 28A | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 28B | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 29A | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 29B | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 30A | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 30B | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 31A | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 31B | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 32A | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 32B | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 33B | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 34A | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 34B | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 35A | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 35B | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |

| | |
|---------|---------------------------------------|
| Box 36B | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 37B | Unprocessed audio recordings, undated |
| Box 38A | Unprocessed audio recordings |
| Box 38B | Unprocessed audio recordings |

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Series 2: Books and Papers

16 Cubic feet (41 boxes)

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Box 39, Folder 1 | Duke Ellington's Story on Records, Volume 1, 1925-1931 |
| Box 39, Folder 2 | Duke Ellington's Story on Records, Volume 4, 1943-1944 |
| Box 39, Folder 3 | Duke Ellington's Story on Records, Volume 5, 1945-1946 |
| Box 39, Folder 4 | Duke Ellington's Story on Records, Volume 6, 1946 |
| Box 39, Folder 5 | Duke Ellington's Story on Records, Volume 7, 1947-1950 |
| Box 39, Folder 6 | Duke Ellington's Story on Records, Volume 8, 1951-1952 |
| Box 39, Folder 7 | Duke Ellington's Story on Records, Volume 9, 1953-1955 |
| Box 39, Folder 8 | Duke Ellington's Story on Records, 1956-1957 |
| Box 40, Folder 1 | Duke Ellington's Story on Records, 1958-1959 |
| Box 40, Folder 2 | Duke Ellington's Story on Records, 1960-1962 |
| Box 40, Folder 3 | Duke Ellington's Story on Records, 1963-1965 |
| Box 40, Folder 4 | Duke Ellington's Story on Records, 1966-1967 |
| Box 40, Folder 5 | Duke Ellington's Story on Records, 1956-1957 |
| Box 40, Folder 6 | Duke Ellington's Story on Records, Volume 1, 1923-1936 |
| Box 40, Folder 7 | General Catalog of Duke Ellington's Recorded Music, undated |
| Box 40, Folder 8 | Duke Ellington on tape, San Filipo listings, undated |
| Box 40, Folder 9 | Ellington research, undated |
| Box 40, Folder 10 | Ellington, undated |
| Box 40, Folder 11 | The Directory of Duke Ellington's Recordings, undated |
| Box 40, Folder 12 | Reel-to-reel content listings, undated |
| Box 41, Folder 1 | An auction by G. Debroe, undated |

Box 41, Folder 2

Ellington research, undated

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