

The musical event which is presented in this collection is without precedent in the history of jazz. History largely consists of chronicling momentous occasions, and it was such an occasion when the full orchestras of Duke Ellington and Count Basie recorded together, side by side, on July 6th, 1961. The result is almost an embarrassment of riches. It is great in significance, great in musical content and, above all, great in demonstrating the two famous leaders' mutual appreciation and understanding of each other.

"I didn't want to make a contest out of it," Duke said afterwards. "I just wanted to have a very pleasant visit. When friends get together you have a visit, not a fight. I greatly appreciated having Count Basie as our guest at Columbia. He is wonderful, of course, and he represents something very special. He has a great band, and they play exactly what they want to play, and no one else can play what they play like they play it. The session was a triumph, because we did something together that had never been done before."



1. **BATTLE ROYAL** 5:32
2. **TO YOU** 3:55
3. **TAKE THE 'A' TRAIN** 3:47
4. **UNTIL I MET YOU** 4:57
5. **WILD MAN** 5:43
6. **SEGUE IN C** 8:26
7. **B D B** 4:43
8. **JUMPIN' AT THE WOODSIDE** 3:07

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