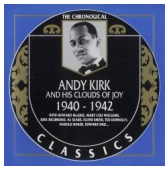
Andy Kirk And His Twelve Clouds Of Joy - The Chronological Classics 1940-1942 (1993)



1 Midnight Stroll 3:19 2 Little Miss 3:12 3 The Count 3:09 4 Twelfth Street Rag 2:55 5 (Ev'rything Happened) When I Saw You 3:06 6 If I Feel This Way Tomorrow (Then It's Love) 2:59 7 Or Have I 2:50 8 Cuban Boogie Woogie 2:19 9 A Dream Dropped In 3:05 10 Is It A Sin (My Loving You?) 3:04 11 Ring Dem Bells 2:49 12 Big Time Crip 2:58 13 47th Street Jive 3:11 14 I'm Misunderstood 3:20 15 No Answer 2:47 16 Hey Lawdy Mama (Meet Me In The Bottom) 2:56 17 Boogie Woogie Cocktail 2:46 18 Ride On, Ride On 2:35 19 McGhee Special 2:58 20 Worried Life Blues (Someday Baby) 2:27 21 Take It And Git 3:13 22 Hip Hip Hooray 2:58 23 Unlucky Blues 2:50 Harold Baker Trumpet John Burris Trumpet Booker Collins Standup Bass, String Bass Ted Donnelly Trombone John Harrington Baritone, Clarinet, Sax (Alto), Sax (Baritone) Edward Inge Clarinet, Sax (Tenor) Ken Kersey Piano Andy Kirk Director, Primary Artist, Sax (Baritone), Sax (Bass), Tuba Harry Lawson Trumpet Howard McGhee Trumpet Earl Miller Clarinet, Sax (Alto) Rudy Powell Clarinet, Sax (Alto) June Richmond Vocals Milt Robinson Trombone Al Sears Sax (Tenor) Ben Smith Sax (Alto) Floyd Smith Guitar, Guitar (Electric), Vocals Ben Thigpen Drums Clarence Trice Trumpet Henry Wells Trombone, Vocals Mary Lou Williams Piano Dick Wilson Clarinet, Sax (Tenor)

The Andy Kirk Orchestra was going through some major changes during the period covered by this CD. Tenor star Dick Wilson died prematurely; pop singer Pha Terrell had left; pianist and chief arranger Mary Lou Williams departed in early 1942 (Ken Kersey was her replacement on piano); and such interesting younger players as trumpeters Harold "Shorty" Baker and Howard McGhee and Al Sears on tenor gave the group a slightly different sound. Actually, the music on this CD (late-period swing) is consistently on a higher level than on most of the previous CDs in the Classics series. Highlights include "The Count," "Hey Lawdy Mama," "Boogie Woogie Cocktail" (featuring Kersey) and Howard McGhee's recording debut on the exciting "McGhee Special." --Scott Yanow, AllMusic Review

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