The

CORNET & TRUMPET

of

ROBERT LEO HACKETT
“BOBBY”

Solographers: Jan Evensmo & Per Borthen
Last update: Feb. 17, 2020
Born: Providence, Rhode Island, Jan. 31, 1915  
Died: Chatham, Massachusetts, June 7, 1976

Introduction:

The beauty of Bobby Hackett’s trumpet and cornet made a lasting impression on all of us back in the old days. These authors' first encounter with this brilliant artist was through his participation at the Benny Goodman Carnegie Hall Concert. To collect all his records has become an obsession!

Early history:

One of nine children, his father was a railroad blacksmith. Played guitar, violin, and occasionally cornet whilst still at school. Left school at 14 to play in a local Chinese restaurant with Benny Resh’s sextet (on guitar), stayed for three months, then played banjo in Charlie Culverwell’s bigband at the Rhodes Ballroom. On guitar and violin with Billy Lossez’s band at the Hotel Biltmore, Providence, then with Herb Marsh band at Onondaga Hotel, Syracuse. During the summer of 1933 played guitar and violin in Payson Re’s band in Falmouth, Massachusetts, then in trio (with Pee Wee Russell and Teddy Roy) at the Crescent Club, Boston, mainly on cornet. Played cornet with Teddy Roy’s band during summer residency at Cape Cod (1934), later that year rejoined Billy Lossez’s band in Providence. Early in 1936 joined Herb Marsh’s septet at the Theatrical Club, Boston (on guitar and cornet), from May 1936 led own band at the same venue and specialized on cornet. Moved to New York, sat-in with Joe Marsala in March 1937, then ‘gigged’ with Lester and Howard Lanin, Meyer Davis, etc., before joining Marsala at the Hickory house on Oct. 10, 1937 (on guitar, doubling cornet). Briefly with Red McKenzie, then led own band at Nick’s, New York (1938), also guested Benny Goodman’s Carnegie Hall Concert (Jan. 16, 1938). Continued to work at Nick’s, then led own band at Famous Door and on tour (1939), disbanded and joined Horace Heidt in September 1939. Prolific freelance recordings from 1937, including sessions organized by jazz-critic Leonard Feather, was also featured in original radio production of ‘Young Man With A Horn’. Remained with Horace Heidt until June 1940, went to West Coast to play soundtrack for Fred Astaire film ‘Second Chorus’, led band at Nick’s from September 1940, brief return to Horace Heidt (November 1940), then led own 10-piece band in Boston. With Glenn Miller (on guitar, doubling cornet), until November 1943. Toured with Katherine Dunham Revue, then rejoined Joe Marsala at Hickory House on Aug. 29, 1944. With Glen Gray and the Casa Loma band from Oct. 2, 1944 until September (1946 (except for brief absences), then from Sept. 30 became staff musician at A.B.C. Did studio work for several years, but also played regularly at Nick’s, etc. (ref. John Chilton).
BOBBY HACKETT SOLOGRAPHY

DICK ROBERTSON & HIS ORCHESTRA  NYC. March 24, 1937
Bobby Hackett (cnt), Al Philburn (tb), Sid Tucker (cl), Frank Signorelli (p, cel-62077), Frank Victor (g), Haig Stephens (b), Stan King (dm), Dick Robertson (vo).
Four titles were recorded for Decca:

- 62074-A  Little Old Lady  In ens. Solo 16 bars (mute). (FM)
- 62075-A  Too Marvelous For Words  In ens. Solo 16 bars (open). (FM)
- 62076-A  My Little Buckaroo  In ens. (SM)
- 62077-A  September In The Rain  In ens. Solo 16 bars (open). (FM)

The first recording session by the 22 years young Bobby Hackett! His style is already quite similar to that of his days of fame, and his cornet playing already has good qualities. Particularly “Too Marvelous …” is highly fascinating, and although BH always held that his main inspiration was Louis Armstrong, here we hear so much Bix Beiderbecke that it can be no coincidence!

DICK ROBERTSON & HIS ORCHESTRA  NYC. April 30, 1937
Same. Four titles, no BH on

- 62168-A  “You’ll Never Go To Heaven” but:
  - 62169-A  Toodle-Oo  In ens. Solo 16+8 bars (open), (cl) on bridge. (M)
  - 62170-A  It Looks Like Rain In Cherry Blossom Lane  In ens. Obbligato 8 bars. Solo 8 bars. (M)
  - 62171-A  On A Little Dream Ranch Only  In ens. (M)

NYC. June 17, 1937

Same. Four titles:

- 62284-A  Good Mornin’  Solo 8 bars to ens 12 bars. (FM)
- 62285-A  The Miller’s Daughter Marianne  In ens. (M)
- 62286-A  The Merry-Go-Round Broke Down  In ens. Solo 16+8 bars, (cl) on bridge. (FM)
- 62287-A  Gone With The Wind  In ens. (M)

Nice and competent Bix-influenced soloing on “Toodle-Oo” and “The Merry …”, and also “… Lane” and “Good …” should be noted.

DICK ROBERTSON & HIS ORCHESTRA  NYC. Oct. 7, 1937
Bobby Hackett (cnt), Al Philburn (tb), Don Watt (cl), Frank Signorelli (p), Frank Victor (g), Haig Stephens (b), Stan King (dm), Dick Robertson (vo).
Four titles were recorded for Decca, no BH on 62666-A “In My Merry Oldsmobile” and 62667-A “Daisy Bell/Little Annie Rooney” but:

- 62668-A  Roses In December  Solo 16 bars. In ens 12 bars. (M)
- 62669-A  Getting Some Fun Out Of Life  Solo 16+8 bars, (cl) on bridge. (M)

The Dick Robertson sides in general are not very exciting, but there are more BH soloing than expected, and the quality of his playing is surprisingly good, making the records quite noteworthy. These two items are among the best, and there is a lot of Bix in his playing here too.

THE ANDREWS SISTERS
ACC. BY VIC SCHOEN & HIS ORCHESTRA  NYC. Oct. 18, 1937
Bobby Hackett (cnt), Vic Schoen (tp, dir), Al Philburn (tb), Don Watt (cl), Frank Froeba (p), Dave Barbour (g), Haig Stephens (b), Stan King (dm).
Two titles were recorded for Decca:

- 62686-A  Why Talk About Love?  Solo 8 bars. (M)
- 62687-A  Just A Simple Melody  Obbligato breaks. (M)

A very nice solo on “… Love?”! “Just …” is of slight interest.
FRANK FROEBA & HIS ORCHESTRA  
NYC. Oct. 18, 1937
Bobby Hackett (cnt), Buddy Morrow (tb), Milt Yaner, Sal Franzella, Don Watt (cl, as), John Sadola (ts), Frank Froeba (p), Haig Stephens (b), Al Sidell (dm), Bill Damell (vo), The Al Rinker (vo-trio).
Four titles were recorded for Decca, no BH on 62692-A “My Swiss Hilly-Billy” and 62694-A “Tears In My Heart” but:

62693-A Danger, Love At Work Solo 8 bars. (FM)
62695-A Miles Apart Intro 4 bars. Solo 6 bars. (M)

“Danger ...” is interesting, and again we are reminded of Bix. “... Apart” is more ordinary.

DICK ROBERTSON & HIS ORCHESTRA  
NYC. Oct. 19, 1937
Personnel as Oct. 7 except Ralph Muzzillo (tp) replaces Johnny Carlson, Johnny McGhee omitted.
Six titles were recorded for Decca, no BH on 62696-A “Rollin’ Plains” and 62700-A “I Wonder Who’s Kissing Her Now” but:

62697-B I Want You For Christmas Solo 12+10 bars, (tb) on bridge. (M)
62698-A A Shanty In Old Shanty Town Solo 8 and 8 bars. (M)
62699-A When It’s Spring Time In The Rockies Solo 8 and 8 bars. (M)
62701-A Sweet Rosie O’Grady Straight 16 bars. (SM)

Both “... Shanty ...” and “... Spring Time ...” have brief but very nice soli! Note also the longer contribution on “... Christmas”.

DICK ROBERTSON & HIS ORCHESTRA  
NYC. Oct. 21, 1937
Personnel as Oct. 19.
Three titles were recorded for Decca, no BH on 62702-A “Two Little Girls In Blue” but:

62703-A That Old Gang Of Mine Solo 16 bars. (M)
62704-A Won’t You Come Over To My House? Straight 16 bars. (SM)

NYC. Oct. 25, 1937

Same. Two titles:

62705-A That’s How I Need You Straight 16 bars. (M)
62706-A My Gal Sal Solo 16+8 bars, (cl) on bridge. (M)

Two very fine BH contributions here, “… Old Gang …” and “… Sal”, note the opening phrase of the latter! “... Need You” is a waltz and completely straight

TEDDY GRACE  
NYC. Oct. 25, 1937
Bobby Hackett (cnt), probably Moe Zudecoff (tb), Milt Yaner, Sal Franzella, Don Watt (cl, as), John Sadola (ts), Frankie Froeba (p), Haig Stephens (b), Al Sidell (dm), Teddy Grace (vo).
Four titles were recorded for Decca, no BH on 62710-A “Tears In My Heart” but:

62707-A I’ve Taken A Fancy To You Solo 8 bars (mute). (FM)
62708-A I’ll Never Let You Cry Solo 8 bars. (SM)
62709-A Goodbye, Jonah Straight 8 bars. (FM)

Two fine soli that should have been much longer.

MAE QUESTAL  
NYC. ca. 1937
Personnel including Bobby Hackett (cnt), Mae “Betty Boop” Questal (vo).
Two titles were recorded for Decca 1544, one title has been available on YouTube:

62758 I Want You For Christmas Solo/straight 12 bars. (M)

Simple, of academic interest only.

FRANK FROEBA & HIS ORCHESTRA  
NYC. Nov. 4, 1937
Personnel as Oct. 18 except Jack Wilmott (vo) replaces The Al Rinker Trio.
Three titles were recorded for Decca, two issued, no BH on 62751-A “Goblins In The Steeple” but:

62752-A Who Solo 16 bars. (FM)
Again a fine solo with relations to Bix.

**RED McKENZIE**  
NYC. Nov. 16, 1937  
Bobby Hackett (cnt), Vernon Brown (tb), Slats Long (cl), Babe Russin (ts), Fulton McGrath (p), Dave Barbour (g), Artie Shapiro (b), Stan King (dm), Red McKenzie (vo, comb).

Four titles were recorded for ARC:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Solo Notes</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22033-1 Farewell My Love</td>
<td>Solo 16 bars (mute). (SM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22034-1 You’re Out Of This World</td>
<td>Solo 16+8 bars (mute), (ts) on bridge. (SM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22035-1 Sail Along, Silv’ry Moon</td>
<td>No solo. (SM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22036-2 Georgianna</td>
<td>Solo 16 bars (mute). (M)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Beautiful muted soloing on these three items.

**ANDREWS SISTERS**  
NYC. Nov. 24, 1937  
Personnel as Oct. 18.

Two titles were recorded for Decca, no BH on 62810 “Nice Work If You Can Get It” but:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Solo Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>62811-A Bei Mir Bist Du Schøn</td>
<td>Solo 18 bars. (M)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Why do it complicated when one can do it with grace? This was beautiful!!

**THE NICHOLAS BROTHERS / DICK ROBERTSON**  
NYC. Dec. 6, 1937  
Bobby Hackett (cnt), Ralph Muzzillo (tp), Al Philburn (tb), Sid Stoneburn (cl), Frank Signorelli (p), Dave Barbour (g), Haig Stephens (b), Stan King (dm), Dick Robertson (vo), The Nicholas Brothers (vo-duets-62858,59).

Four titles were recorded for Decca, no BH on 62858-A “Wrap Your Cares In Rhythm And Dance” and 62861-A “In A Little White Lighthouse” (there is a muted solo 16 bars (M) on this one, but it does not sound like BH):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Solo Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>62859-A They Say He Ought To Dance</td>
<td>Solo 8 bars. (M)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>62860-A Ten Pretty Girls</td>
<td>Solo 16+8 bars, (tb) on bridge. (M)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

And beautiful BH on “… Girls”!

**DICK ROBERTSON & HIS ORCHESTRA**  
NYC. Dec. 20, 1937  
Personnel as Dec. 6.

Five titles were recorded for Decca, 62894-A “Three O’Clock In The Morning” (Decca F-6846) has not been available, no BH on 62891-A “The Rhythm Of The Snowflakes”, 62892-A “The House On The Hill” and 62893-A “Let’s Waltz For Old Times’ Sake” but:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Solo Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>62895-A Sail Along, Silv’ry Moon</td>
<td>Solo 16 bars. (M)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Rather straight but pretty “… Moon”.

**DICK ROBERTSON & HIS ORCHESTRA**  
NYC. Jan. 14, 1938  
Personnel as Dec. 6.

Five titles were recorded for Decca:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Solo Notes</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>63161-A Bob White</td>
<td>Solo 16+12 bars, (tb) on bridge. (M)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63162-A You’re A Sweetheart</td>
<td>Solo 16+8 bars, (cl) on bridge. (M)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63163-A You Started Something</td>
<td>Solo 8 bars. (M)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63164-A I Wonder What’s Become OS?</td>
<td>Solo 16+8 bars, (cl) on bridge. (M)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63165-A Somebody’s Thinking OYT</td>
<td>Solo 16+8 bars, (cl) on bridge. (M)</td>
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Lots of BH on this on this session, although the items are pretty similar, and there seems to be an element of routine in his playing. Nevertheless Per feels BH is now maturing and enjoys these items more than any before.

**BENNY GOODMAN**  
NYC. Jan. 16, 1938  
Bobby Hackett (cnt), Vernon Brown (tb), Benny Goodman (cl), Babe Russin (ts), Jess Stacy (p), Allen Reuss (g), Harry Goodman (b), Gene Krupa (dm).

One title was recorded at concert in Carnegie Hall:

I’m Coming Virginia  
Solo/straight with ens 48 bars. Coda. (SM)
Just a little more than two minutes are what BH gets at this famous concert, but it is an item to remember, it is all cornet with Benny’s clarinet prominent in the background, very nice! Per would like to say this: When I first heard this recording, probably in 1955 when I was only fifteen years old, I was thrilled by the whole concert, but it was not until now that I have realized that this was in fact the Great Introduction to BH. I am not particularly a Bix fan, but here BH is copying Bix beyond imagination, and his sound in Carnegie Hall is so much better than on the previous studio recordings.

EDDIE CONDON & HIS WINDY CITY SEVEN  NYC. Jan. 17, 1938
Bobby Hackett (cnt), George Brunies (tb), Pee Wee Russell (cl), Bud Freeman (ts), Jess Stacy (p), Eddie Condon (g), Artie Shapiro (b), George Wettling (dm).
Five titles were recorded for Commodore:

22306-1  Love Is Just Around The Corner  In ens. (FM)
22306-2  Love Is Just Around The Corner  As above. (FM)
22307-1  Beat To The Socks  Solo 12 bars. In ens. (SM)
22308  Carnegie Drag  As 22307 above. (SM)
22309  Carnegie Jump  Solo 12 bars. In ens. (F)
22310-1  Ja-Da  In ens. Solo with ens 18 bars. (S)
22310-2  Ja-Da  As above. (S)

This is primarily Pee Wee’s session, lots of fascinating clarinet here! However, there is also space for others, and BH takes some lovely soli on “Beat …” and “… Drag” which is in fact an alternate take. He also is mighty prominent in the ensemble on “Ja-Da” with a delicate four bars break. Both takes are nice, but -1 is the better one.

ADRIAN ROLLINI QUINTET  NYC. Jan. 18, 1938
Bobby Hackett (cnt), Frank Victor (g), Harry Clark (b), Buddy Rich (dm), Adrian Rollini (vib, xyl), Sonny Schuyler (vo).
Five titles were recorded for Decca:

63174- A  Bei Mir Bist Du Schö'n  Solo/straight 16+8 bars, (xyl) on bridge.  (xyl) on bridge.  Solo 34 bars to coda. (FM)
63175- A  Josephine  Soli 16, 2 and 6 bars. (M)
63176- A  You’re A Sweetheart  Solo 8 bars. Solo 18+8 bars, (vib) on bridge.  Solo 8 bars. (FM)
63177- A  True Confession  Intro 2 bars. Solo 8 bars.  Solo 16+8 bars, (vib) on bridge.  Solo 8 bars. (M)
63178- A  I’ve Hitched My Wagon TAS  Intro 4 bars. Soli 12, 8, 16 and 4 bars. (M)

Wow, this was really something! This session is one to remember, there is such a wonderful atmosphere, brilliant vibework by Rollini, a singer I really appreciate in spite of his outdatedness. “Bei Mir …” is the most exciting item with lovely cornet playing in abundance, great! But they are all so lovely! Not that BH does anything special here, in fact there are much better examples of his playing in this period, but they have found a very nice concept here, the blend of nice tunes, cornet, vibes/xyles and singing, it beats you!

BOBBY HACKETT & HIS ORCHESTRA  NYC. Feb. 16, 1938
Bobby Hackett (cnt), George Brunies (tb), Pee Wee Russell (cl, ts), Bernie Billings (ts), Dave Bowman (p), Eddie Condon (g), Clyde Newcombe (b), Johnny Blowers (dm), Lola Bard (vo-754).
Four titles were recorded for Vocalion/Okeh:

754-1  You, You And Especially You  Solo/straight 16+8 bars, (ts) on bridge. (SM)
755-1  If Dreams Come True  Intro 6 bars. Solo 32 bars. (SM)
756-1  At The Jazz Band Ball  In ens. Solo 16 bars. (FM)
757-1  That Da Da Strain  In ens. Solo 16 bars. (FM)

There is too much ensemble playing for my taste, I believe BH should have given himself more blowing space, just listen to his soloing as far as it goes, he has
obviously lots of inspiration on this date! Particularly “If Dreams …” has a most pleasant and exciting solo!

Discographies gives Bobby Hackett (cnt) on the MAXINE SULLIVAN session of NYC. March 1, 1938, but this is wrong, listening reveals Charlie Shavers!

LEONARD FEATHER ALL STAR JAM BAND  
NYC. March 10, 1938
Bobby Hackett (cnt), Joe Marsala (cl, ts), Pete Brown (tp, as), Leonard Feather (p-777) Joe Bushkin (p-775,778, cel-776), Ray Biondi (g, vln), Artie Shapiro (b), George Wettling (dm), Leo Watson (vo-775,777).
Four titles were recorded for Commodore:

775-2 For He’s A Jolly Good Fellow Solo with ens 20 bars. (FM)
776-1 Jammin’ The Waltz In ens. (SM)
776-2 Jammin’ The Waltz As above. (SM)
777-1 Let’s Get Happy Solo 16 bars to ens. (M)
778-1 Clementine Solo 8 bars. Solo 24 bars to ens. (FM)

Pleasant session with good soloing by all participants. BH’s cornet is particularly noteworthy on “… Happy”.

TEDDY WILSON & HIS ORCHESTRA  
NYC. March 23, 1938
Bobby Hackett (cnt), Pee Wee Russell (cl), Tab Smith (as), Gene Sedric (ts), Teddy Wilson (p), Allan Reuss (g), Al Hall (b), Johnny Blowers (dm), Nan Wynn (vo-22610-12).
Four titles were recorded for Brunswick:

22610-1 Alone With You Intro 4 bars. Solo 4 bars. (SM)
22610-2 Alone With You As above. (SM)
22611-1 Moments Like This Obbligato 32 bars. (M)
22611-2 Moments Like This As above. (M)
22612-1 I Can’t Face The Music Obbligato 30 bars. (SM)
22612-2 I Can’t Face The Music As above. (SM)
22613-1 Don’t Be That Way Solo 16 bars. (M)
22613-2 Don’t Be That Way As above. (M)

Although not as memorable as the following Wilson session, also this one has excellent music and BH contributions. Most exciting of course are his soloing on the two versions of “… Way”, but there is very nice muted background playing to be noted.

TEDDY WILSON & HIS ORCHESTRA  
NYC. April 29, 1938
Bobby Hackett (cnt), Jerry Blake (cl), Johnny Hodges (as), Teddy Wilson (p), Allan Reuss (g), Al Hall (b), Johnny Blowers (dm), Nan Wynn (vo-22822-24).
Four titles were recorded for Brunswick:

22822-1 If I Were You Solo 8 bars. Obbligato 8 bars. In ens 8 and 2 bars. (M)
22822-2 If I Were You As above. (M)
22823-1 You Go To My Head Solo/straight 16 bars. (SM)
22823-2 You Go To My Head As above. (SM)
22824-1 I’ll Dream Tonight Solo 16 bars. (M)
22824-2 I’ll Dream Tonight As above. (M)
22825-1 Jungle Love As below. (FM)
22825-2 Jungle Love Solo/straight 32 bars. (FM)

A magnificent session for a lot of reasons, just look at the personnel! This was a very fruitful combination of musicians, producing four wonderful sides with alternate takes on all. My favourite since youth has been the unforgettable “Jungle …” where BH introduces the performance after a brief drum intro, leading up to the altosax solo, wonderful! But “… Tonight” is perhaps the most important BH item here with two delightful muted, fully improvised soli, dig
these!! The two other titles also have much to offer, and this is a BH session you will never forget!

**EDDIE CONDON & HIS WINDY CITY SEVEN**  
**NYC. April 30, 1938**

Bobby Hackett (cnt), Jack Teagarden (tb, vo-22833), Pee Wee Russell (cl), Bud Freeman (ts), Jess Stacy (p), Eddie Condon (g), Artie Shapiro (b), George Wettling (dm).

Four titles were recorded for Commodore:

- 22380-1 Embraceable You Intro with ens 8 bars. Solo with ens 32 bars. (S)
- 22381-1 Meet Me Tonight In Dreamland In ens. (F)
- 22381-2 Meet Me Tonight In Dreamland As above. (F)
- 22832-1 Diane In ens. (SM)
- 22832-2 Diane As above. (SM)
- 22833-1 Serenade To A Shylock In ens. Solo 12 bars. (S) In ens. (FM)
- 22833-2 Serenade To A Shylock As above. (S/FM)

Certainly beautiful playing on “… You” but a terrible ensemble background spoils much of the pleasure. He is also worth noticing in the slow ensembles on “Diane” and “… Shylock”, the latter also having nice soli.

**ADRIAN ROLLINI QUINTET**  
**NYC. June 23, 1938**

Personnel possibly as Jan. 18, except The Tune Twisters (vo-group) replaces Schuyler.

Four titles were recorded for Vocalion:

- 23147-2 Ten Easy Lessons Soli 8, 8, 12 and 4 bars. (FM)
- 23148-1 Small Fry Intro 2 bars. Solo 18 bars. (SM)
- 23148-2 Small Fry As above. (SM)
- 23149-1 I Wish I Had You Acc. (xyl) 32 bars. Solo 16 bars. Solo with (vo-ens) 16 bars. (FM)
- 23150-2 On The Bumpy Road To Love Intro 2 and 2 bars. Acc. (xyl) 32 bars. Solo 16+8 bars, (xyl) on bridge. (FM)

This Rollini session does not have the same immediate charm as the first one although many of the elements are the same. The choice of material is more commercial and the vocal group cannot quite replace Schuyler’s nice vocal. However, the strange thing is that BH is much better here! His soli on the two takes of “Small Fry” are magnificent! The two on “… Had You” and the one on “… Love” not far behind. So this is a session to be noted!

**BOBBY HACKETT**  
**NYC. June 25, 1938**

Bobby Hackett (cnt), Brad Gowans (vtb), Pee Wee Russell (cl), Ernie Caceres (bar), Dave Bowman (p), Eddie Condon (g), Clyde Newcombe (b), George Wettling (dm).

Broadcast “Saturday Night Swing Club”, one title:

At The Jazz Band Ball In ens. Solo 32 bars. In ens. (FM)

A fine, well conceived solo.

**MAXINE SULLIVAN**  
**NYC. June 29, 1938**

Personnel including Bobby Hackett (cnt), Maxine Sullivan (vo).

Four titles were recorded for Victor, no BH on 23750-1 “Spring Is Here” but:

- 23751-1 Down The Old Ox Road Solo 2 bars. Break. (S)
- 23752-1 St. Louis Blues Obbligato 24 bars. (SM)
- 23753-1 L’Amour, Toujours L’Amour Break. (SM)

Some fine background cornet on “St. Louis …” should be noted.

**BUD FREEMAN & HIS GANG**  
**NYC. July 12, 1938**

Bobby Hackett (cnt), Pee Wee Russell (cl), Dave Matthews (as), Bud Freeman (ts), Jess Stacy (p), Eddie Condon (g), Artie Shapiro (b), Dave Tough (dm-23233-34), Marty Marsala (dm-22235-36).

Four titles were recorded for Commodore:
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<tr>
<th>Track No.</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23233-1</td>
<td>Tappin’ The Commodore Till</td>
<td>Solo 24 bars. In ens. (M)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>23233-2</td>
<td>Tappin’ The Commodore Till</td>
<td>As above. (M)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23234-1</td>
<td>Memories Of You</td>
<td>Solo/straight 16 bars. Solo with ens 16 bars. (SM)</td>
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<tr>
<td>23234-2</td>
<td>Memories Of You</td>
<td>As above. (SM)</td>
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<tr>
<td>23234-NG</td>
<td>Memories Of You</td>
<td>As above. (SM)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>23234-PB</td>
<td>Memories Of You</td>
<td>Solo 16 bars. (M)</td>
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<td>23235-1</td>
<td>‘Life’ Spears A Jitterbug</td>
<td>Solo 32 bars. (FM)</td>
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<td>23235-BD</td>
<td>‘Life’ Spears A Jitterbug (NC)</td>
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<td>23236-1</td>
<td>What’s The Use?</td>
<td>Solo/straight 16+8 bars. (ts) on bridge. In ens. (SM)</td>
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<tr>
<td>23236-2</td>
<td>What’s The Use?</td>
<td>As above. (SM)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23236-PB</td>
<td>What’s The Use?</td>
<td>As above. (SM)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

BH’s third encounter with Commodore is much more successful than the first one. Good soloing on “… Till” and “… Use?”. However, when listening to “Memories …”, one understands how important the intelligence of the Commodore producers was, how they gave the musicians time to warm up, feel at home, encouraging them to offer their best, take chances, no problems with another take. Here we have a warm-up version faster than the final results, and then three beautiful versions; to call one ‘no good’ does not bother us at all, great! Also “… Jitterbug” should be noted with two fine BH soli.

JOE MARSALA  
NYC. July 12, 1938
Bobby Hackett (cnt), Joe Marsala (cl), Ernie Caceres (bar), Joe Bushkin (p), Carmen Mastren (g), Sam Shoobe (b), George Wettling (dm).
Martin Block program, Bill Savory collection, four titles:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jazz Me Blues</td>
<td>In ens. Solo 40 bars. (M)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California Here I Come</td>
<td>Solo 32 bars. (M)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When Did You Leave Heaven?</td>
<td>In ens. Solo 64 bars. In ens. (M)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Sheik Of Araby</td>
<td>In ens. Solo 32 bars. In ens. (FM)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This is the kind of session where everything is perfect! Excellent soloing by all participants, including BH!!

BOBBY HACKETT ACC. BY LEITH STEVENS ORCHESTRA  
NYC. 1938
Bigband personnel including Bobby Hackett (tp).
Bill Savory collection, one title:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alice Blue Gown</td>
<td>Solo 48 bars to long coda. (FM)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Only 1 ½ minutes long but a fine BH feature.

BOBBY HACKETT & HIS JAZZ BAND  
NYC. Aug. 17, 1938
Bobby Hackett (cnt), Brad Gowans (tb), Pee Wee Russell (cl), Dave Bowman (p), Eddie Condon (g), Clyde Newcombe (b), Andy Picard (dm).
Guest at a Paul Whiteman broadcast “Chesterfield Hour”, two titles:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Embraceable You</td>
<td>Intro 8 bars to solo 32 bars. With ens 12 bars to coda. (S)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muskrat Ramble</td>
<td>In ens. (FM)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This is BH’s first of a large number of “Embraceable …”s, lovely!!

VIC LEWIS & HIS AMERICAN JAZZMEN  
NYC. Oct. 5, 1938
Collective personnel: Bobby Hackett (cnt, g-295), Joe Marsala (cl), Dave Bowman (p), Eddie Condon (p, g), Vic Lewis (cnt-294, g, vo-296), Zutty Singleton (dm, vo-295).
Six titles were recorded for personal pleasure, later issued on British Esquire:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Track No.</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>293</td>
<td>Early Rising Blues</td>
<td>Soli 12 and 30 bars (NC). (S)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>294</td>
<td>New York Blues</td>
<td>Solo 12 bars. (S). Soli 12 and 24 bars. (FM)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Hackett Picking Blues  Guitar solo. (S)
Baby, Won’t You Please Come Home  In ens. (M)
Keep Smiling At Trouble  In ens. (FM)
Sugar  Straight 32 bars. Solo 16+8 bars, (cl) on bridge. (SM)

BOBBY HACKETT & HIS ORCHESTRA  NYC. Oct. 19, 1938
Bobby Hackett (cnt), Brad Gowans (vtb), Pee Wee Russell (cl), Bernie Billings (ts), Ernie Caceres (bar), Dave Bowman (p), Eddie Condon, Vic Lewis (g), Zutty Singleton, George Wettling (dm), Josie Carole (vo-300).
Six titles:

Tiger Rag  In ens. (FM)
Leader’s Headache Blues  In ens. (S)
Basin Street Blues  In ens. (S). In ens. Solo 16 bars. (FM)
Wrap Your Troubles In Dreams  Solo/straight 32 and 8 bars. (SM)
That’s A Plenty  In ens. (FM)
Muskat Ramble  Solo 16 bars. (FM)

To quote the LP liner notes: “It is only fair to point out that these recordings are of very low fidelity”. Yes, true, and therefore it is difficult to get much out of the ensembles, which take up most of the space. However, there are some very good BH solo moments if you listen closely.

BOBBY HACKETT & HIS ORCHESTRA  NYC. Nov. 4, 1938
Bobby Hackett (cnt), Brad Gowans (vtb, as), Pee Wee Russell (cl), Ernie Caceres (bar), Dave Bowman (p), Eddie Condon (g), Clyde Newcombe (b), Andy Picard (dm), Linda Keene (vo-916).
Four titles were recorded for Vocalion/Okeh:

Blue And Disillusioned  Straight 8 bars. Obbligato parts. (SM)
A Ghost Of A Chance  Solo/straight 16+8 bars, orch on bridge. Solo 18 bars. (SM)
Poor Butterfly  Solo 32 bars. (M)
Doin’ The New Low Down  Solo 8 bars. Solo 16+8, orch on bridge. (M)

Pleasant performances, but I think BH could have made more out of such a nice tune as “… Chance”. More exciting then is “… Low Down” and particularly his fine solo on “… Butterfly”.

JAM SESSION  NYC. Nov. 5, 1938
Collective personnel: Bobby Hackett (cnt), Max Kaminsky, Yank Lawson, Hot Lips Page, Marty Marsala (tp), Tommy Dorsey (tb), Mezz Mezzrow, Pee Wee Russell, Joe Marsala (cl), Sidney Bechet (sop), Bud Freeman (ts), Jess Stacy, Joe Bushkin (p), Carmen Mastren, Eddie Condon (g), Art Shapiro (b), Zutty Singleton, Dave Tough (dm), Lee Wiley (vo-“Sugar”), Alastair Cooke (mc).
Broadcast to Britain from St. Regis Hotel, seven titles, two have BH:

Keep Smilin’ At Trouble  Solo 32 bars, destroyed by (mc). (M)
Sugar  Obbligato parts. (SM)

An interesting jam session but of slight interest for BH enthusiasts.

EDDIE CONDON & HIS BAND  NYC. Nov. 12, 1938
Bobby Hackett (cnt), Vemon Brown (tb), Pee Wee Russell (cl), Bud Freeman (ts), Joe Bushkin (p), Eddie Condon (g), Artie Shapiro (b), Lionel Hampton (dm).
Two titles were recorded for Commodore:

Sunday  In ens. Solo 8 bars. (SM)
As above. (M)
California Here I Come  In ens. (FM)
As above. (FM)
Only two titles one a session saved by Hampton who took the drums when Dave Tough failed to show up. Mostly nice ensemble playing, but the two brief soli on “Sunday” are nice.

TEDDY WILSON & HIS ORCHESTRA  
NYC. Nov. 28, 1938
Bobby Hackett (cnt), Trummy Young (tb), Toots Mondello, Ted Buckner (as), Bud Freeman, Chu Berry (ts), Teddy Wilson (p), Al Casey (g), Milt Hinton (b), Cozy Cole (dm), Billie Holiday (vo).
Four titles were recorded for Brunswick, BH only straight in ens on 23762-1&2 “Hello My Darling” but:

23760-1  You’re So Desirable  Coda. (SM)
23760-2  You’re So Desirable  As above. (SM)
23761-1  You’re Gonna See A Lot Of Me  Straight/solo 16 bars. (SM)
23761-2  You’re Gonna See A Lot Of Me  As above. (SM)
23763-1  Let’s Dream In The Moonlight  Brief obbligato parts. (SM)
23763-2  Let’s Dream In The Moonlight  As above. (SM)

This is Teddy Wilson and Billie Holiday’s session with almost no space for other soloists. Note however “… Lot Of Me”, BH plays ‘straight’ in the beginning, but as with all great jazz artists, there are still substantial variations between the takes!

MAXINE SULLIVAN  
NYC. Dec. 10, 1938
Bobby Hackett (cnt), Slats Long, Chester Hazlett (cl, as), Bud Freeman (ts), Milt Rettenberg (p), Ken Binford (g), Ed Brader (b), Ed Rubsam (dm), Maxine Sullivan (vo).
Four titles were recorded for Victor, two have BH:

30382-1  Night And Day  Solo 16 bars. (SM)
30385-1  Say It With A Kiss  Soli 4 and 2 bars. (SM)

Beautiful solo on “… Day”, but the highlight is the brief solo on “… Kiss”!

DICK TODD  
NYC. Dec. 17, 1938
Personnel including Bobby Hackett (cnt), Bud Freeman (ts), Dick Todd (vo).
Four titles were recorded for Bluebird, BB-10097 has not been available but:

Deep Purple  Solo/straight 8 bars. (SM)
Are You In The Mood For Mischief?  Straight. (SM)

Although Brian Rust does not give this session much attention, the brief BH contribution on “Deep …” is certainly worth noticing.

THE RHYTHM CATS  
NYC. Dec. 21, 1938
Bobby Hackett (cnt), Brad Gowans (vtb), Pee Wee Russell (cl), Ernie Caceres (bar), Dave Bowman (p), Andy Picard (dm).
Twelve titles were recorded for Thesaurus Transcriptions:

Sensation Rag  In ens. (FM)
Muskrat Ramble  In ens. Solo 16 bars. (M)
After You’ve Gone  In ens. Solo 16 bars. (FM)
There’ll Be Some Changes Made  In ens. Solo 36 bars. (FM)
Love Is Just Around The Corner  In ens. (FM)
Jazz Me Blues  In ens. Solo 20 bars. (FM)
At The Jazz Band Ball  In ens. Solo 16 bars. (FM)
Skeleton Jangle  In ens. Solo 16 bars. (FM)
Royal Garden Blues  In ens. Solo 12 bars. (M)
Thinking Of You  In ens. Solo 8 bars. (FM)
Singing The Blues  In ens. Solo 32 bars (mute). (M)
Sweet Georgia Brown  In ens. Solo 16 bars (mute). (FM)

These transcription items contain lots of very nice music, not only by BH but others belonging to the jazz greats. However, the production has no imagination,
all items trod along in the same up-medium tempo with ensemble and then mostly brief soli. But by all means, nice music!

BOBBY HACKETT & HIS ORCHESTRA  
NYC. April 13, 1939

Bobby Hackett (cnt), Sterling Bose, Jack Thompson (tp), Brad Gowans (vib, ar), George Troup (tb), Pee Wee Russell (cl), Louis Colombo (as), Bernie Billings (ts), Ernie Caceres (bar), Dave Bowman (p), Eddie Condon (g), Sid Jacobs (b), Don Carter (dm), Buck Ram (arr).

Four titles were recorded for Vocalion/Okeh:

1017-A  That’s How Dreams Should End  Solo/straight 16+8 bars, orch on bridge. Solo 8 bars. Coda. (M)

1018-A  Ain’t Misbehavin’  Solo/straight 16+8 bars, orch on bridge. Solo 8 bars. (SM)

1019-A  Sunrise Serenade  Solo/straight with orch 16 bars. Breaks. (SM)

1020-A  Embraceable You  Intro with orch 8 bars. Solo with orch 32 bars. (S)

If this was the idea of a large orchestra, it is no surprise it folded very quickly. At least, judging from this session, the concept is quite commercial and predictable, a backing band for BH’s cornet and not much more. Of course it is always nice to hear him, even playing rather straight introductions, but only “… You” will probably be played twice, and even this tune has many better versions.

LEONARD FEATHER’S ALL STAR JAM BAND  
NYC. April 20, 1939

Bobby Hackett (cnt, g), Benny Carter, Pete Brown (tp, as), Joe Marsala (cl), Billy Kyle (p), Hayes Alvis (b), Cozy Cole (dm).

Four titles were recorded for Decca, one has BH:

65437-A  Twelve Bar Stampede  Solo 24 bars. (FM)

One fine cornet contribution on this exciting session with a mixture of musicians not normally playing together.

BOBBY HACKETT & HIS ORCHESTRA  
Philadelphia, April 25, 1939

Bigband personnel similar to above, definitely including Pee Wee Russell (cl), Dorothy Dennis (vo). Per Borthen collection. Broadcast from the Garden Terrace, Benjamin Franklin Hotel, four “Harry Smith Recording” 78 rpm. acetates:

Embraceable You (Theme)  Solo/straight 32 bars, partly with announcer. (S)

Rose Room  Solo 32 bars. (M)

And The Angels Sing  Solo/straight 16 and 16 bars. (SM)

Mean To Me  Solo 16+8 bars, orch on bridge. (M)

Ain’t Misbehavin’  Solo/straight 16+8 bars, orch on bridge. Solo 2 bars (NC). (SM)

Embraceable You (Theme)  Solo/straight 32 bars, partly with announcer. (S)

World’s Fair Shuffle  Solo 16 bars. (FM)

I Never Knew Heaven Could Speak  Solo/straight 16 and 8 bars. Coda. (SM)

Building A Sailboat Of Dreams  Solo/straight 16 and 8 bars. (M)

Ghost Of A Chance  Solo/straight 16+8 bars, orch on bridge. Solo 18 bars. (SM)

Embraceable You (Theme)  Solo/straight 7 bars (NC). (S)

Philadelphia, May 1, 1939

Same. Four acetates (as above):

Embraceable You (Theme)  Solo/straight 32 bars, partly with announcer. (S)

World’s Fair Shuffle  Solo 16 bars. (FM)

Strange Enchantment  Straight 16 bars. Solo 8 bars. Straight 8 bars. (SM)
What Comes Up, Must Come Down  Solo/straight 4, 4, 4 and 12 bars. (M)

And The Angels Sing  Solo/straight 16 and 16 bars. (SM)

Blue Room  Straight 8 bars. Solo 32 bars. (FM)

Have Mercy  Straight 4, 4 and 4 bars. (SM)

King Arthur  Solo 16+8 bars, orch on bridge. (FM)

Ghost Of A Chance  Solo 16+8 bars, orch on bridge. Solo 18 bars. (SM)

Embraceable You (Theme)  Solo/straight 32 bars, partly with announcer. (S)

Philadelphia, unknown date(s)

Same. Three “Perma Disk” 78 rpm. acetates (bad condition):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Embraceable You (Theme)</td>
<td>Solo/straight 28 bars (NC), partly with announcer. (S)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>King Arthur</td>
<td>Solo 16+8 bars, orch on bridge. (FM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unidentified Title</td>
<td>Solo/straight 8 bars. (FM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I Cried For You</td>
<td>Intro 4 bars. Solo/straight 16 and 16 bars. (SM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unidentified Title</td>
<td>Solo/straight 16, 8 and 8 bars. (SM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean To Me</td>
<td>Solo 16+8 bars, orch on bridge. (FM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t Worry ‘Bout Me</td>
<td>Intro 6 bars. Solo/straight 8, 8, 8, 4 and 6 bars. (SM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Always</td>
<td>Solo/straight 32 bars. (FM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Embraceable You (Theme)</td>
<td>Intro 8 bars. Solo/straight 26 bars (NC), partly with announcer. (S)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These broadcasts are really jazz archeological treasures, nevertheless the comments to the studio session of April 13 are still highly relevant. This is a dance orchestra, not a jazz orchestra, and the programs cannot sustain concentrated listening. Apart from some nice clarinet soli by Pee Wee, some rare piano, tenorsax or trombone, and quite ordinary female vocal, it is all BH’s homeground. Most of the time he plays ordinary, rather straight forward melody presentations, using both muted and open horn, although once in awhile a real solo flowers. “Rose …”, “Mean …”, “Blue …”, “… Shuffle” are nice examples. Otherwise, and maybe not surprising, the many “Theme”s, seven in total, are what call upon close listening. Very beautiful and with slight but interesting variations, enough to make us BH addicts smile.

BOBBY HACKETT & HIS ORCHESTRA  NYC. July 17, 1939

Bobby Hackett (cnt), Stan Wilson, Joe Lucas, Harry Genders (tp), Cappy Crouse, John Grassi (tb), Louis Colombo, Jerry Caplan (as), Hammond Russen, Hank Kmen (ts), Dave Bowman (p), Bob Julian (g), Sid Jacobs (b), Don Carter (dm), Claire Martin (vo-1053).

Four titles were recorded for Vocalion/Okeh:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1050-A Bugle Call Rag</td>
<td>Soli 20, 4 and 10 bars. (FM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1051-A Ja-Da</td>
<td>Solo 18 bars to coda. (S)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1052-A Dardanella</td>
<td>Solo/straight. (M)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1053-A I Surrender Dear</td>
<td>Soli 4, 4 and 2 bars. (SM)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This orchestra is just not interesting enough, having no other quality soloist but BH, and when he gives himself little blowing space, not much is left. Not much is done with “… Rag”, and “Dardanella” is of slight interest. But of course, play the last half of the unusually slow “Ja-Da”, and you will be amply rewarded!

DICK ROBERTSON & HIS ORCHESTRA  NYC. Aug. 30, 1939

Bobby Hackett, Ralph Muzzillo (tp), Al Philburn (tb), Tony Zimmers (cl, ts), unknown (p), Dave Barbour (g), Haig Stephens (b), Sam Weiss (dm), Dick Robertson (vo).

Four titles were recorded for Decca, three issued:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>66241-A What Good Will It Do?</td>
<td>Solo 16 bars. (M)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
66242-A Baby Me Obbligato 16 bars. Solo 8 bars. (FM)
66243-A Somebody Told Me They Loved Me As below? ( )
66243-B Somebody Told Me They Loved Me Solo 16 bars. (SM)

NYC. Sept. 19, 1939

Same/similar. Three titles:

66612 I Only Want A Buddy – NAS Solo 16+6 bars, (p) on bridge. (M)
66613 That’s What I Want For Xmas Solo 16+10 bars, (tb) on bridge. (FM)
66614 Don’t Wait Till The Night Before Xmas Solo 8 bars. (FM)

A brief visit, more than 1 ½ years since the last Robertson recording, but BH has only continued to develop his art, and all his contributions here are quite noteworthy.

BING CROSBY / THE ANDREWS SISTERS
ACC. BY JOE VENUTI & HIS ORCHESTRA

NYC. Sept. 20, 1939

Bobby Hackett, Bill Graham (tp), Mike Riley (tb), Paul Ricci (cl), Joe Venuti (vln), Jess Stacy (p), Sam Weiss (dm), Bing Crosby, The Andrews Sisters (vo).

Two titles, “Ciribiribin” and “Yodelin’ Jive”, were recorded for Decca, but no BH.

HORACE HEIDT & HIS MUSICAL KNIGHTS

NYC. Sept. 20, 1939

Bigband personnel including Bobby Hackett (cnt).

Five titles were recorded for Columbia, no BH on “God’s Country” and “To You, Sweetheart, Aloha” but:

26094 Out Of Space Solo with orch 8 bars. (SM)
26095 Good Morning Solo with orch 16 bars. (FM)
26096 Are You Havin’ Any Fun? Solo 16 bars. (FM)

NYC. Oct. 5, 1939

Smaller group personnel from the Horace Heidt orchestra under the name of

FRANKIE CARLE & HIS SUNRISE SERENADERS.

Four titles were recorded for Vocalion, two have been available, no BH on “Night Glow” but:

26155 Blue Fantasy Solo 16 bars. (SM)

Postscript of May 2018: Was not aware of this promising session! Nice BH on “... Fantasy”?

NYC. Oct. 5, 1939

Same/similar. Five titles:

26158 Baby, What Else Can I Do? Solo 8 bars. (SM)
26159 Piggy Wiggy Woo Solo 4 bars. (M)
26160 Parade Of The Wooden Soldier Solo 16 bars. (F)
26161 Can I Help It? Straight 6 and 6 bars. (SM)
26162 Last Night Solo/straight 16 bars. (SM)

NYC. Oct. 25, 1939

Same/similar.

Five titles, “Flower Of Dawn” and “The Chimes Of Notre Dame” have not been available, no BH on “Make Love With A Guitar” and “Two Hearts Are Better Than One” but:

26209 Down In The Alley And OTF Solo with orch 16 bars. (FM)

LA. Dec. 28, 1939

Same/similar.

Five titles, no BH on “It’s A Blue World” and “I wish Upon A Star” but:

2090 I’m Just Wild About Harry Solo 20 bars. (FM)
2092 Oh! What A Lovely Dream Solo 8 bars. (M)
2093 Give A Little Whistle Solo 8 bars. (FM)

LA. Jan. 15&18, 1940
Same/similar. Ten titles, no BH on “Tumblin’ Tumbleweeds”, “Leanin’ On The Ole Top Rail”, “The World Is Waiting For The Sunrise”, “Whistle-itis”, “The Singing Hills” and “Prelude In C Sharp Minor” but:

2113 Say It Solo 8 bars. (M)
2114 The Girl With The Pigtails In Her Hair Soli 4 and 4 bars. (M)
2115 My! My! Solo 8 bars. (M)
2119 Merry Wives Of Windsor Solo 16 bars. (F)

The famous bigband of Horace Heidt can hardly be said to play jazz in the real sense, with its Hawai guitar and vocal groups, but it is a good dance band offering occasional good jazz soli. When Bobby Hackett joins the band, he is immediately recognizable and get surprisingly many solo opportunities. “Baby, What Else …” with an 8 bars solo is a very nice example. Particular the Dec. 28, 1939 session seems to be a fine day for BH, “… Harry” has a real, fine jazz solo, and also “… Dream”, “… Whistle” “Say …” and “My! …” have beautiful soli, well worth listening to, in spite of the commercial aspects of this music.

BOBBY HACKETT & HIS ORCHESTRA L.A. Jan. 25, 1940
Bobby Hackett (cnt), Bernie Mattison (tp), Jerry Borshard (tb), Bob Riedel (cl), George Dessinger (ts), Jim Beitus (bar), Frankie Carle (p), Bob Knight (g), Eddie McKinney (b), Don Carter (dm), The Tempo Twisters (v-2124,25).
Four titles were recorded for Vocalion/Okeh, two issued:

2124-A That Old Gang Of Mine As below? ( )
2126-B Clarinet Marmalade Solo 32 bars. (FM)

L.A. Jan. 31, 1940

Same. Two titles:

2124-B That Old Gang Of Mine Intro 8 bars to solo/straight 16+8 bars, ens on bridge. Solo/straight 6 and 8 bars. (FM)
2125-B After I Say I’m Sorry Intro 6 bars. Solo 4 bars. Obbligato parts. Solo 32 bars. (FM)

L.A. Feb. 1, 1940

Same. One title was recorded for Vocalion/Okeh:

2129-C Singin’ The Blues Brief intro to solo/straight with orch 24 bars. Solo 32 bars. Break. (SM)

Good soloing when you expect it the least, “… Marmalade” has some very nice playing! And when you expect it, “Singin’ …”, of course there is, although the introduction could have been better organized. “… Mine” is rather ordinary, while “… Sorry” has a delightful solo!

HORACE HEIDT & HIS ORCHESTRA L.A. Feb. 1, 1940
Bigband personnel including Bobby Hackett (cnt).
Seven titles were recorded for Columbia, “The Vocalizing Song” and “Love Song Of Renaldo” have not been available, while “Tiny Old Town”, “The Missouri Waltz”, That Naughty Waltz” and “Barcarole” have no BH, but:

2136 Angel In Disguise Solo 8 bars. (SM).

Chi. March 20, 1940

Same/similar. Seven titles were recorded for Columbia, “Run, Rabbit, Run!”, “Nothing But You”, “The Voice In The Valley” and “From Another World” have not been available, while “The Three Trees”, “Little Curly Hair In A High Chair” and “A Lover’s Lullaby” have no BH.

NYC. May 14, 1940

Same/similar. Six titles, “Gimme A Li’l Kiss” has not been available, while “The Breeze And I”, “Vilia”, “On The Old Park Bench”, “Hear My Song, Violetta” and “Clear Out Of This World” have no BH.

NYC. May 21, 1940

Same/similar. Six titles, “Ave Maria” and “Drink To Me Only With Thyne Eyes” have not been available, while “I Won’t Come Home Till You Kiss Me”, “On A Simmery, Summery Day”, and “Can’t Get Indiana Off My Mind” have no BH, but:

27336 I Bought A Wooden Whistle Solo 8 bars. (M)
Note: It is not clear when Bobby Hackett left the Horace Heidt orchestra, but until conflicting evidence is produced, it is assumed that he has left before the June 26, 1940 session. Please give feedback if you know something about this!! I have checked ten of the fifteen titles recorded June 26 – Sept. 17, 1940, but no trace of BH.

BOBBY HACKETT

NYC. 1940

Bobby Hackett (cnt), Jerry Borshard (tb), Sam Finger (cl), Dave Kanennson (ts), Walter Knick (p), Jerry Langston (g), John Horch (b), Jimmy Metz (dm).

Several titles, the seven below belong to Per Borthen collection. Missing numbers indicate that more have been recorded. 545/546 on Private 1013, 548 on unlabelled disc (flip side (no number); Jerry Borshard (vib), Jerry Langston (g), McKinley (dm); “I Got Rhythm / “Chinatown”), 549/551 on Private 1012, 552/553 on Private 1011:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Label</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>545</td>
<td>Coquette</td>
<td>Solo 32 bars. (M)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>546</td>
<td>Hackett’s Blues</td>
<td>In ens. Solo 24 bars. (SM)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>548</td>
<td>Lady Be Good</td>
<td>Solo 64 bars. (FM)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>549</td>
<td>Blue Skies</td>
<td>In ens. (M)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>551</td>
<td>I Want To Be Happy</td>
<td>Solo 32 bars. (FM)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>552</td>
<td>Rose Room</td>
<td>With ens 64 bars. Solo 32 bars. (M)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>553</td>
<td>“Unlabelled Blues”</td>
<td>Solo 24 bars. (M)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Interesting session, quite well organized with regard to solo schedules. Note also a very competent tenor sax player. BH does not quite get everything together on the promising “Hackett’s Blues”, and he never exceeds what is expected of him, but is strong particularly on “Lady…”.

JAM SESSION

Evanston, Ill., March-May 1940

Bobby Hackett (cnt), Rosy McHargue, Joe Rushton (tb), Squirrel Ashcraft (p), Howard Kennedy (g), Ormond Downes (dm).

Informal session at Ashcraft’s house, one title:

I Cried For You

With ens 40 bars. Solo 80 bars, last 40 with ens, to 16 bars ens. (FM)

Uneven playing here, very fine at times, but also somewhat hesitant, probably because of unplanned jam circumstances.

same date

Bobby Hackett (tp), Jimmy McPartland (cnt), Bud Wilson (tb), Rosy McHargue, Joe Rushton (cl), Spencer Clark (bar), Squirrel Ashcraft (p), Howard Kennedy (g), Ormond Downes (dm); Note: Hackett and McPartland exchanged instruments but kept their own mouthpieces. One title:

Till We Meet Again

With (cnt)/ens appr. 8 choruses of 32 bars. (M)

The issued version of this jam seems to have been tampered with; obviously there are some missing bars on at least two places. It contains a series of choruses with ensemble based playing, one similar to the other, and it is, at least to me (JE), impossible to get head or tail on when who plays what here, so this item must be considered a mere curiosity of mainly academic interest.

BOBBY HACKETT

NYC. June 23, 1940

Bobby Hackett (cnt), Henry Levine (tp), Jack Epstein (tb), Alfie Evans (cl, as), Rudolph Adler (ts), Mario Janarro (p), Tony Colucci (g), Harry Patent (b), Nat Levine (dm).

Broadcast “Chamber Music Society of Lower Basin Street”, two titles:

Body And Soul

Solo 32+12 bars. (S)

Jazz Me Blues

Breaks. Solo 20 bars. In ens. (FM)

Fine program with very good sound, and BH takes most of the blowing opportunities. A beautiful version of “Body …” should be noted above all, but also “…Blues” has good breaks and prominent playing.

ARTIE SHAW

Hollywood, July 26 - Aug. 26, 1940

Bigband personnel including Bobby Hackett (tp) (ghosting for Fred Astaire’s trumpet soli), Billy Butterfield (tp) (ghosting for Burgess Meredith’s trumpet soli), George Wendt (tp), Artie Shaw (cl), Johnny Guarnieri (p), Nick Fatool (dm).

Film soundtrack “Second Chorus”, BH seems to be heard on the following items:
Sugar  Duet with (tp) 26 bars. (SM)
Unknown Tune  Duet with (tp) 14 bars. (FM)
Sweet Sue  Duet with (tp) 3 choruses of 32 bars. (FM)
I’m Yours  Possibly solo 32 bars. (M)

This is not as easy as one might think, not only because Billy Butterfield’s style is quite close to BH’s on these rather strong blown items, but also because George Wendt has reported playing some trumpet soli here. The notation ‘duet’ is therefore in lack of perfect identification. The unchallenged highlight is “Sweet Sue” where the guys really are blowing and trading for three full choruses, only moderately bothered by the film’s dialogue. On “… Yours”, BH’s presence would have considered absolutely improbable, if it were not for the fact that he plays a trumpeter on audition but is sabotaged by BB, thus with awful results! Would be nice to actually see the movie!

HORACE HEIDT & HIS ORCHESTRA  Hollywood, Nov. 27, 1940
Personnel may include Bobby Hackett (tp, cnt).
Six titles, “Out Of The Grey” and “Dark Eyes” have not been available, while “A Pretty Girl Is Milking Her Cow”, “Because Of You”, “The Bill Of Rights” and “America, I Love You” have no BH.

The American Dance Band Discography by Brian Rust states that for July 24, 1941: “unknown (tp) replaces Hackett”. However the twelve titles recorded at the Jan. 14 – April 21, 1941 sessions have no trace of BH.

JAM SESSION  NYC. between April 22 – July 9, 1941
Collective personnel: Joe Thomas (tp), Bobby Hackett (cnt), Miff Mole, Benny Morton, Lou McGarity (tb), Edmond Hall, Joe Marsala (cl), Dave Bowman, Joe Sullivan (p), Eddie Condon (g), unknown (b), Zutty Singleton (dm).

The sound quality is not the best here, making even “Sugar” seem somewhat ordinary. The first half of the second solo on “Basin …” is magnificent though.

GLENN MILLER & HIS ORCHESTRA  July 15, 1941 – Sept. 24, 1942
Big band personnel including Bobby Hackett (cnt, tp, g).
There is an enormous number of titles in this period. The following BH soli have been identified, but broadcast information from Tom Lord indicates that many more exist:

NYC. Aug. 11, 1941
Recording session for Bluebird:
67629-1  From One Love To Another  Solo with orch 18 bars. (SM)

NYC. Sept. 3, 1941
Recording session for Bluebird:
67746-1  This Time The Dream’s On Me  Solo with orch 16 bars. (S)

Schenectady, NY. Sept. 17, 1941
CBS broadcast “Chesterfield Show:
Rockin’ Chair  Solo with orch 4 and 32 bars to long coda. (S)

NYC. Oct. 20, 1941
Recording session for Bluebird:
71190-1  Dreamsville, Ohio  Solo with orch 8 bars. (S)

NYC. Nov. 3, 1941
Recording session for Bluebird:
68068-1  A String Of Pearls  Straight with orch 12 bars. (M)

NYC. Nov. 8, 1941
NBC broadcast from “Café Rouge”, Hotel Pennsylvania:
Dreamsville, Ohio Solo with orch 8 bars. (S)
A String Of Pearls Straight with orch 12 bars. (M)
Star Dust Solo 16 bars. (S)
You And I Solo 8 bars. (SM)
NYC. Nov. 22, 1941

NYC broadcast from “Café Rouge”, Hotel Pennsylvania:
Dreamsville, Ohio Solo with orch 8 bars. (S)
NYC. Nov. 29, 1941

NYC broadcast from “Café Rouge”, Hotel Pennsylvania:
Dreamsville, Ohio Solo with orch 8 bars. (S)
NYC. Dec. 30, 1941

CBS broadcast, “Chesterfield Show”:
Star Dust Solo 16 bars. (S)
Recording session for Victor:
72233-1 Sweet Eloise Solo with orch 4 bars. (SM)
Recording session for Victor:
72284-1 Serenade In Blue Solo with orch 4 bars. (S)

Naval Training Station, Ill., May 26, 1942
CBS broadcast, “Chesterfield Show”:
A String Of Pearls Straight with orch 12 bars. (M)
Naval Training Station, Ill., June 2, 1942
CBS broadcast, “Chesterfield Show”:
Little Brown Jug Solo 16 bars. (M)
Chi. July 16, 1942
Recording session for Victor:
74748-1 Rhapsody In Blue Solo with orch 10 bars. (S)
Chi. July 16, 1942
CBS broadcast, “Chesterfield Show” (could also be April 8 or 23):
Sweet Eloise Solo with orch 4 bars. (SM)
NYC. Aug. 12, 1942
CBS broadcast “Chesterfield Show” (could also be Sept. 22):
April In Paris Solo with orch 8 bars. (S)

The Glenn Miller orchestra was not jazz as such, but an excellent dance orchestra with occasional jazz soli. It is quite surprising that it did not utilize BH more, he should have been the perfect musician under these constraints. A survey on Spotify rendered the eleven soli above, an incredible low figure, of which only four are from studio sessions. Any reader of this must have heard “… Pearls”, but the broadcast version shows no improvisation here. Much more interesting is “Dreamsville …” with four brief but excellent different soli. “From One Love …” should be noted, and of course the greatest moments are the two versions of “Star Dust”. We are confident more nice BH-items are out there, waiting to be dug out!! Postscript of May 19, 2016: The previous version stated that no solo from 1942 had been found, but this has changed now! Postscript of Feb. 2020: Note a discovered version of “Rockin’ Chair”, as tailored for BH!

LEE WILEY VOCAL ACC. BY
EDDIE CONDON & HIS ORCHESTRA
NYC. ca. Feb. 1942
Bobby Hackett (cnt), Lou McGarity, Buddy Morrow, Vernon Brown (tb), Ernie Caceres (bar), Dave Bowman (p), Eddie Condon (g), Bob Haggart (b), George Wettling (dm).
Four titles were recorded for Schirmer:
This session is only of interest for Lee Wiley collectors; BH’s contributions are brief and few and insignificant.

BOBBY HACKETT & HIS ORCHESTRA  
NYC. Dec. 23, 1943

Bobby Hackett (cnt), Ray Conniff (tb), John Peper (cl), Nick Cafiazza (ts), Frank Signorelli (p), Eddie Condon (g), Bob Casey (b), Maurice Purtill (dm).

Nine titles were recorded for World Transcriptions. Some of the detailed references to the ensemble playing have been omitted, so that better focus on the real soli could be achieved:

1235-1 But Not For Me (FS)  Intro 4 bars. (SM)
1235-2 But Not For Me  Intro 4 bars. Soli 8 and 8 bars. (SM)
1235-3 But Not For Me (FS)  As take 1. (SM)
1235-4 But Not For Me (NC)  Intro 4 bars to ens. (SM)
1235-5 But Not For Me  As take 2. (SM)
1235-6 But Not For Me (FS)  Intro 2 bars. (SM)
1235-7 But Not For Me  As take 2. (SM)
1236-1 Rose Room (FS)  In ens. (FM)
1236-2 Rose Room  Solo 16 bars. In ens 32 bars. (FM)
1236-3 Rose Room  As take 2. (FM)
1237-1 's Wonderful  Solo 16 bars. (FM)
1238-1 Ja-Da  Solo 18 bars to coda. (S)
1238-2 Ja-Da  As take 1. (S)
1238-3 Ja-Da  As take 1. (S)
1239-1 Exactly Like You (NC)  In ens. (M)
1239-2 Exactly Like You (NC)  In ens. Solo 4 bars (NC). (M)
1239-3 Exactly Like You  In ens. Solo 16+8 bars, (p) on bridge. (M)
1239-4 Exactly Like You  As take 3. (M)
1240-1 When A Woman Loves A Man  Solo 16 bars to coda. (SM)
1241-1 Embraceable You (FS)  In ens 6 bars. (S)
1241-2 Embraceable You (NC)  In ens 18 bars. (S)
1241-3 Embraceable You  In ens 24 bars. Solo 32 bars to coda. (S)
1241-4 Embraceable You  As take 3. (S)
1242-1 I’ll Never Be The Same (NC)  In ens 12 bars (NC). (S)
1242-2 I’ll Never Be The Same (NC)  In ens 16 bars. (S)
1242-3 I’ll Never Be The Same  In ens 16, 8 and 8 bars. (S)
1242-4 I’ll Never Be The Same (NC)  As take 1. (S)
1243-1 Sweet Georgia Brown (FS)  In ens a few bars. (FM)
1243-2 Sweet Georgia Brown (FS)  As take 1. (FM)
1243-3 Sweet Georgia Brown (FS)  As take 1. (FM)
1243-4 Sweet Georgia Brown  In ens 32 and 32 bars. (FM)
1243-5 Sweet Georgia Brown  As take 4. (FM)

Now begins a new recording era where we can stumble upon excellent Bobby Hackett almost every week, on Commodore or Condon-shows and other sources.
This session is an excellent start. Although to my taste there is too much ensemble playing and background accompaniment, BH gives us lots of excitement here, also with the appearance of alternate takes and breakdowns. Particular the slow tempi are highly noteworthy, and titles like “Ja Da”, “… The Same” and “Embraceable …” should be played again and again!

**ORIGINAL DIXIELAND JAZZ BAND**
NYC. Dec. 30, 1943
Bobby Hackett (cnt), Eddie Edwards (tb), Brad Gowans (cl), Frank Signorelli (p), Tony Spargo (dm).
Four titles were recorded for VDisc:
- Tiger Rag  In ens. Solo 18 bars. (FM)
- Sensation Rag  In ens. (FM)
- Muskrat Ramble  In ens. (M)
- Sioux City Sue  In ens. (S). In ens. (FM)

BH comes through clearly on the fast medium part of “Sioux …”, but the highlight of the session is an excellent solo on “… Rag”!

**EDDIE CONDON**
NYC. March 11, 1944
Collective personnel: Bobby Hackett (cnt), Billy Butterfield, Max Kaminsky (tp), Hot Lips Page (tp, vo), Miff Mole (tb), Edmond Hall, Pee Wee Russell (cl), Joe Bushkin, Cliff Jackson (p), Eddie Condon (g), Bob Casey, Pops Foster (b), Kansas Fields, George Wettling (dm).
Concert in Town Hall, five titles have BH:
- Ja-Da  In ens. Solo 3 choruses of 18 bars to ens. (S)
- Muskrat Ramble  Solo 32 bars to ens. (FM)
- Nobody Knows (And Nobody STC)  Soli 32 and 16 bars. (SM)
- Uncle Sam Blues  Solo 4 bars. (SM)
- Impromptu Ensemble  2 x Solo 4 bars to ens. (M)

This the first of the Condon shows, and obviously the musicians are very excited about it, evident by the talking. The music in general is very inspired, and the rhythm section has more unconstrained and jubilant swing to it than ever later. However, it seems that BH is not completely up to his best. This “Ja Da” is the longest of them all, more than eight minutes long, but he starts out miserably with fluffs, and although he recovers, it seems that some uncertainty prevails. But of course, this is fascinating and well worth playing anyway. “Uncle Sam …” is also a long one, but after a daring break, he disappears in the ensemble. Nice to hear him on the seldom played “Nobody …”, and also “… Ramble” is very good. Here we also get the first example of “Impromptu Ensemble”, an unrehearsed blues to conclude all programs. This version is ten minutes long and structured on 4 bars breaks with ensemble filling out the chorus. In all, a very exciting session, but we have heard BH better.

**JOE MAR'S ALL STARS**
NYC. March 21, 1944
Bobby Hackett (tp), Frank Orchard (tb), Joe Marsala (cl), Gene Schroeder (p), Eddie Condon (g), Bob Casey (b), Rollo Layla (dm).
Four titles were recorded for Savoy:
- Clarinet Marmalade  In ens. (FM)
- Joe’s Blues  Solo 12 bars. In ens 12 bars. (S)
- Village Blues  In ens 24 bars to solo 24 bars. (M)
- Tiger Rag  In ens. (FM)

Prominent and excellent ensemble playing by our friend on all items here, play them all, but the highlights are two beautiful soli: a swinging one on “Village …”, a sensitive slow one on “Joe’s …”, BH at his very best!

**MIFF MOLE & HIS NICKSIELAND BAND**
NYC. April 28, 1944
Bobby Hackett (tp), Miff Mole (tb), Pee Wee Russell (cl), Ernie Caceres (bar), Gene Schroeder (p), Eddie Condon (g), Bob Casey (b), Joe Grauso (dm).
Four titles were recorded for Commodore:
- St. Louis Blues  In ens. Solo 12 bars. (SM)
- St. Louis Blues  As above. (SM)
- Peg O’ My Heart  Solo 8 bars. (S). In ens. (S/F)
Fine, almost majestic and different soli on the “St. Louis…”'s (and note Pee Wee’s break on take 1, called ‘surreal’ by Dan M!! Read his liner notes to this session!!) Beautiful brief solo on “Peg …”. The session highlights are however the two takes of “… Man. This is BH at his most sublime, he has got his own thing not to be shared by any trumpeter in this jazz world. No words can really express the emotional impact he does on these modest solographers.

EDDIE CONDON  
NYC. May 20, 1944
Collective personnel: Bobby Hackett (ct), Billy Butterfield (tp), Hot Lips Page (tp, vo), Miff Mole (tb), Pee Wee Russell (cl), Eugene Schroeder, James P. Johnson (p), Eddie Condon (g), Bob Casey (b), Joe Grauso (dm), Liza Morrow (vo). 
NBC Blue Network Show 1 broadcast from Town Hall, three titles have BH:

- Peg O’ My Heart
- Someone To Watch Over Me
- Impromptu Ensemble

A beautiful brief solo on “… Heart” to be particularly noted here!

EDDIE CONDON  
NYC. May 27, 1944
Collective personnel: Bobby Hackett, Rex Stewart (ct), Max Kaminsky (tp), Hot Lips Page (tp, vo), Miff Mole (tb), Pee Wee Russell (cl), Ernie Caceres (cl, bar), Eugene Schroeder, James P. Johnson (p), Eddie Condon (g), John Kirby (b), Sonny Greer (dm), Liza Morrow (vo). 
NBC Blue Network Show 2 (AFRS 1) broadcast from Town Hall, one title has BH:

- I Must Have That Man

Except for a small fluff in the beginning, this is BH at his greatest!

EDDIE CONDON  
NYC. June 3, 1944
Collective personnel: Bobby Hackett (ct), Billy Butterfield, Max Kaminsky (tp), Hot Lips Page (tp, vo), Benny Morton (tb), Pee Wee Russell, Edmond Hall (cl), Ernie Caceres (cl, bar), Eugene Schroeder (p), Eddie Condon (g), Bob Casey (b), Joe Grauso (dm), Liza Morrow (vo). 
NBC Blue Network Show 3 broadcast from Town Hall, two titles have BH:

- Ballin’ The Jack
- Whatcha Doin’ After The War?

Low profile BH on this program, but a fine solo on “… Jack”.

EDDIE CONDON  
NYC. June 8, 1944
Bobby Hackett (ct), Billy Butterfield (tp), Hot Lips Page (tp, vo), Benny Morton (tb), Pee Wee Russell (cl), Ernie Caceres (cl, bar), Gene Schroeder (p), Eddie Condon (g), Bob Haggart (b), Joe Grauso (dm), Liza Morrow (vo). 
Fifteen titles were recorded for Associated Transcriptions, the following have BH:

- Ballin’ The Jack
- That’s A Plenty
- Cherry
- Sweet Georgia Brown
- At The Jazz Band Ball
Someone To Watch Over Me  
Intro 4 bars. Obbligato parts. (S)

Ja-Da  
In ens. Solo 36 bars to coda. (S)

Ja-Da  
In ens. Solo 18 bars to coda. (S)

The opening phrase of “Ballin’ ...” shows that BH is in excellent shape here, culminating with two lovely versions of “Ja-Da”, one brief and one long, dig these!

EDDIE CONDON  
NYC. June 10, 1944
Collective personnel: Bobby Hackett (cnt), Max Kaminsky (tp), Hot Lips Page (tp, vo), Bill Harris (tb), Pee Wee Russell (cl), Emie Caceres (cl, bar), Clyde Hart (p), Eddie Condon (g), Bob Haggart (b), Joe Grauso (dm), Liza Morrow (vo).
NBC Blue Network Show 4 (AFRS 2) broadcast from Town Hall, one title has BH:

Ja-Da  
Solo 36 bars. (S)

A long and most delightful solo on “Ja-Da” which seems to have been one of BH’s favourite tunes!

EDDIE CONDON  
NYC. June 17, 1944
Collective personnel: Bobby Hackett (cnt), Hot Lips Page (tp, vo), Bill Harris (tb), Pee Wee Russell (cl), Eme Caceres (cl, bar), Eugene Schroeder, James P. Johnson (p), Eddie Condon (g), possibly Bob Haggart (b), Joe Grauso (dm).
NBC Blue Network 5 broadcast from Town Hall, four titles have BH:

The Joint Is Jumpin’  
Obbligato parts (vo-HLP). (FM)

Squeeze Me  
In ens. (S)

Ain’t Misbehavin’  
In ens. (FM)

If It Ain’t Love  
Solo/straight 32 and 16 bars. (SM)

BH is not prominently featured here, but “… Love” is worth noticing.

EDDIE CONDON  
NYC. June 24, 1944
Collective personnel: Bobby Hackett (cnt), Max Kaminsky (tp), Hot Lips Page (tp, vo), Pee Wee Russell (cl), Emie Caceres (cl, bar), Eugene Schroeder, Willie “The Lion” Smith (p), Eddie Condon (g), Bob Haggart (b), Joe Grauso (dm).
NBC Blue Network Show 6 (AFRS 4) broadcast from Town Hall, four titles have BH:

Cherry  
In ens. Solo 8 bars. (SM)

Jazz Me Blues  
In ens. (M)

Keepin’ Out Of Mischief Now  
Solo 20 bars. (SM)

Ensemble Blues  
Solo 12 bars. (FM)

Not much BH here either, but try “Ensemble …” where he precedes Max and Hot Lips, exciting!! It seems Max is taking the fine solo on “Jazz …”. Nice “… Mischief …” but a small fluff in the beginning.

EDDIE CONDON  
NYC. July 1, 1944
Collective personnel: Bobby Hackett (cnt), Max Kaminsky (tp), Jonah Jones (tp, vo), Benny Morton (tb), Pee Wee Russell, Joe Marsala (cl), Emie Caceres (cl, bar), Eugene Schroeder (p), Eddie Condon (g), Sid Weiss (b), Gene Krupa (dm).
NBC Blue Network Show 7 (AFRS 4) broadcast from Town Hall, four titles have BH:

The Lady’s In Love With You  
In ens. (FM)

China Boy  
In ens. (FM)

Pennies From Heaven  
Solo/straight 32 and 16 bars to long coda. (S)

Ensemble Blues  
Solo 24 bars. (FM)

Another of BH’s favourites, “Pennies …”, played in a quite slow tempo, just as lovely as you can imagine, note particularly the closing! Also another exciting “Ensemble …” with Max first, then BH preceding Jonah.

EDDIE CONDON  
NYC. July 8, 1944
Collective personnel: Bobby Hackett (cnt), Billy Butterfield (tp), Jonah Jones (tp, vo), Benny Morton (tb), Pee Wee Russell, Edmond Hall (cl), Emie Caceres (cl,
bar), Eugene Schroeder (p), Eddie Condon (g), Johnny Williams (b), Joe Grauso (dm).

NBC Blue Network Show 8 (AFRS 6) broadcast from Town Hall, three titles have BH:

- **Struttin’ With Some Barbecue** In ens. Solo with ens 32 bars. (FM)
- **Singing The Blues** Soli with ens 24 and 32 bars. (SM)
- **Ensemble Blues** Soli 24 and 12 bars. (FM)

You just look at the title “Singing The Blues” and your mouth starts watering, because you expect something delicious. And you get it. Another brilliant example of BH’s greatness, and how he can with a few bars like 9-10 create such wonderful tension. And this time he is first out on “Ensemble …” with Butterfield and Jonah coming in later, and then they return for another chorus.

**EDDIE CONDON**

NYC. July 15, 1944

Collective personnel: Bobby Hackett (cnt), Max Kaminsky (tp), Jonah Jones (tp, vo), Benny Morton (tb), Pee Wee Russell, Edmond Hall (cl), Ernie Caceres (cl, bar), Eugene Schroeder, Willie “The Lion” Smith (p), Eddie Condon (g), Johnny Williams (b), George Wettling (dm).

NBC Blue Network Show 9 (AFRS 7) broadcast from Town Hall, two titles have BH:

- **New Orleans** Solo 4 bars. (S)
- **Ensemble Blues** Solo 12 bars. (M)

Only a short version of “Ensemble …” here. And a few nice bars on Caceres’ feature number “… Orleans”.

**EDDIE CONDON**

NYC. July 29, 1944

Collective personnel: Bobby Hackett (cnt), Max Kaminsky (tp), Benny Morton (tb), Pee Wee Russell, Edmond Hall (cl), Ernie Caceres (cl, bar), Eugene Schroeder, Willie “The Lion” Smith (p), Eddie Condon (g), Bob Haggart (b), Gene Krupa, Joe Grauso (dm).

NBC Blue Network Show 11 (AFRS 10) broadcast from Town Hall, two titles have BH:

- **I’m Coming Virginia** Soli 24 and 24 bars. (S)
- **Ensemble Blues** Solo 24 bars. (FM)

Our friend is not quite in shape on “… Virginia”, several fluffs in the first half, however much better in the second half. No problems with his two choruses on “Ensemble …” though.

**EDDIE CONDON**

NYC. Aug. 5, 1944

Collective personnel: Bobby Hackett (cnt), Max Kaminsky (tp), Benny Morton (tb), Pee Wee Russell, Edmond Hall (cl), Ernie Caceres (cl, bar), Eugene Schroeder, Jess Stacy (p), Eddie Condon (g), unknown (b), Gene Krupa, Joe Grauso (dm), Lee Wiley (vo).

NBC Blue Network Show 12 (AFRS 9) broadcast from Town Hall, two titles have BH:

- **I’ve Got A Crush On You** Obbligato 8 bars. (S)
- **Soon** Straight 32 bars. Solo 24 bars. (S)

Not much BH on this program, but an unusually forcefully played solo on “Soon” makes up for it.

**EDDIE CONDON**

NYC. Aug. 12, 1944

Collective personnel: Bobby Hackett, Muggsy Spanier (cnt), Benny Morton (tb), Pee Wee Russell (cl), Ernie Caceres (cl, bar), Eugene Schroeder, James P. Johnson (p), Eddie Condon (g), Bob Haggart (b), Gene Krupa, Joe Grauso (dm), Lee Wiley (vo).

NBC Blue Network Show 13 (AFRS 11) broadcast from Town Hall, one has BH:

- **Ensemble Blues** Solo 24 bars. (FM)

Only the closing jam title has BH on this program, but his two choruses are good enough.

**EDDIE CONDON**

NYC. Aug. 19, 1944

Collective personnel: Bobby Hackett (cnt), Billy Butterfield (tp), Benny Morton (tb), Pee Wee Russell, Edmond Hall (cl), Ernie Caceres (cl, bar), Eugene
Schroeder, Willie “The Lion” Smith (p), Eddie Condon (g), Bob Casey (b), Gene Krupa, Joe Grauso (dm), Lee Wiley (vo).

NBC Blue Network Show 14 (AFRS 12) broadcast from Town Hall, two have BH:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instrument</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clarinet Marmalade</td>
<td>Prominently in ensemble. (FM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensemble Blues</td>
<td>Solo 24 bars. (FM)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This program has not much BH either, but another two up-tempo blues choruses on “Ensemble…” will do.

**Eddie Condon**

NYC. Aug. 26, 1944

Collective personnel: Bobby Hackett, Muggsy Spanier (cnt), Max Kaminsky (tp), Bill Harris (tb), Joe Marsala (cl), Emie Caceres (cl, bar), Eugene Schroeder (p), Eddie Condon (g), Bob Haggart (b), Gene Krupa (dm), Lee Wiley (vo).

NBC Blue Network Show 15 (AFRS 13) broadcast from Town Hall, two have BH:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Soon</td>
<td>Solo with ens 32 bars.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Solo with ens 24 bars to coda. (S)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensemble Blues</td>
<td>Soli 12 and 12 bars. (FM)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Soon was also played on Aug. 5 but this version is definitely better, note the last part into coda! Note also that this “Ensemble…” has two separate choruses.

**Eddie Condon**

NYC. Sept. 2, 1944

Collective personnel: Bobby Hackett (cnt), Jonah Jones (tp, vo), Miff Mole (tb), Pee Wee Russell, Edmond Hall (cl), Emie Caceres (cl, bar), Eugene Schroeder, Cliff Jackson (p), Eddie Condon (g), Sid Weiss (b), Gene Krupa, Joe Grauso (dm).

NBC Blue Network Show 16 (AFRS 14) broadcast from Town Hall, five have BH:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Walkin’ The Dog</td>
<td>Solo 16 bars. (M)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I Can’t Give You Anything But Love</td>
<td>Break 2 bars. (SM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peg O’ My Heart</td>
<td>In ens. (S)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ja-Da</td>
<td>In ens. Solo 36 bars. (S)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensemble Blues</td>
<td>In ens. (FM)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From this session a good solo on “…. Dog”, although with a mistake in bar 6, and an effectful break after Jonah’s vocal on “…. Love” should be noted. But the highlight is not unexpected the beautiful “Ja-Da”, always played with great inspiration. Note that the “Ensemble…” here is quite brief and with no solo by our friend.

**Eddie Condon**

NYC. Sept. 23, 1944

Collective personnel: Bobby Hackett, Muggsy Spanier (cnt), Max Kaminsky (tp), Miff Mole (tb), Pee Wee Russell, Edmond Hall (cl), Emie Caceres (cl, bar), Jess Stacy, James P. Johnson (p), Eddie Condon (g), Sid Weiss (b), Gene Krupa (dm), Lee Wiley, Red McKenzie (vo).

NBC Blue Network Show 19 (AFRS 17) broadcast from Town Hall, one has BH:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Easter Parade</td>
<td>Solo 32 bars. In ens. (M)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BH does not appear on the Oct./Nov. programs, and on this date he has only one solo opportunity, but as a compensation it is a very nice one!

**Bobby Hackett & His Orchestra**

NYC. Sept. 23, 1944

Bobby Hackett (tp), Lou McGarity (tb), Pee Wee Russell (cl), Emie Caceres (bar), Jess Stacy (p), Eddie Condon (g), Bob Casey (b), George Wettling (dm).

Five titles were recorded for Commodore:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4805</td>
<td>At Sundown In ens. Solo 32 bars. (FM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4806-1</td>
<td>New Orleans Soli/straight 16 and 16 bars. (S)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4807</td>
<td>Skeleton Jangle In ens. (FM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4807-TK1</td>
<td>Skeleton Jangle As above. (FM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4808</td>
<td>When Day Is Done Solo 32 bars to coda. (S)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4808</td>
<td>When Day Is Done As above. (S)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4809T</td>
<td>Soon Soli/straight 32 and 22 bars. (SM)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
“At …” is played with such sovereign elegance that one must just bow and accept the gift BH gives us. “New …” is beautiful but played rather straightforward (note Caceres doubling the tempo in his solo here!). And pretending we do not hear some minor fluff’s on “When …”, is there much competition in jazz history to the beauty BH exhibits here? Letting all the guys come in first, he concludes the takes with such lovely soloing (and listen to Caceres!!) that if this had been his only recording session, he still would have become legendary.

EDDIE CONDON  
NYC. Dec. 2, 1944

Bobby Hackett (cnt), Wingy Manone (tp, vo), Max Kaminsky (tp), Jack Teagarden (tb, vo), Pee Wee Russell (cl), Ernie Caceres (bar), Cliff Jackson, Norma Teagarden (p), Eddie Condon (g), Jack Lesberg (b), George Wettling (dm).

NBC Blue Network Show 29 (AFRS 26) broadcast from Ritz Theatre, four have BH:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Track</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I Found A New Baby</td>
<td>In ens. (FM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Sheik Of Araby</td>
<td>In ens. (FM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baby Won’t You Please Come Home</td>
<td>Solo 36 bars. (FM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensemble Blues</td>
<td>Solo 24 bars. (M)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This is Big T’s session but with blowing space for the other participants, and BH gets two opportunities, a sparkling solo on “Baby …” and some good blues on “Ensemble …”.

V-DISC ALL STARS  
NYC. Dec. 6, 1944

Collective personnel: Bobby Hackett (cnt), Louis Armstrong, Hot Lips Page (tp, vo), Billy Butterfield (tp), Jack Teagarden (tb, vo), Lou McGarity (tb), Ernie Caceres (cl), Nick Ciaiazza (ts), Bill Clifton, Johnny Guarnieri (p), Herb Ellis (g), Al Hall, Felix Giobee (b), Cozy Cole (dm).

Five titles were recorded for VDisc, no BH on “I’m Confessin’” - take A&B and “If I Could Be With You” – BD but:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Track</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jack Armstrong Blues</td>
<td>In ens. (M)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can’t We Talk It Over?</td>
<td>Solo 6 bars. (S)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Sheik Of Araby</td>
<td>Solo 32 bars. (F)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If I Could Be With You</td>
<td>Obbligato 18 bars (vo-JT).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Solo 18 bars. In ens/breaks. (S)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Magnificent playing by BH on “If I Could …”, my goodness! And also “… Araby” has a top ranked solo!

EDDIE CONDON & HIS ORCHESTRA  
NYC. Dec. 13, 1944

Bobby Hackett, Billy Butterfield, Max Kaminsky (tp), Jack Teagarden (tb, vo), Pee Wee Russell (cl), Ernie Caceres (bar), Gene Schoeder (p), Eddie Condon (g), Bob Haggart (b), George Wettling (dm), Lee Wiley (vo).

Five titles were recorded for Decca, two have BH:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Track</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>72619-A When Your Lover Has Gone</td>
<td>Solo/straight 16 bars. Solo 8 bars. Solo/straight with (tb) 12 bars. (S)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>72622 The Man I Love</td>
<td>Intro 4 bars. Obbligato parts. (S)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NYC. Dec. 14, 1944

Same. Six titles, three have BH:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Track</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>72630-A Someone To Watch Over Me</td>
<td>Intro 4 bars. Obbligato parts. (S)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>72630-1 Someone To Watch Over Me</td>
<td>As above. (S)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2949 Somebody Loves Me</td>
<td>Solo 18 bars. In ens. (FM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2948 The Man I Love</td>
<td>Intro 4 bars. Obbligato parts. (S)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

With three excellent trumpeters cast in the same mould participating, one may occasionally be not quite sure who is who, but the above is our choice, please volunteer your comments! The session starts with a lovely “… Lover …”, while the best solo improvisation per se is “Somebody …”, dig this! Note that the intro on “… Love” are quite different on the two versions, slightly different on “… Watch …”. Postscript of May 12, 2017: Tom Buhmann states that the soloing on
“Somebody …” is definitely by Billy Butterfield, possibly also on “The Man …”. What do you think?

**EDDIE CONDON**

**NYC. Dec. 16, 1944**

Collective personnel: Bobby Hackett (cnt), Billy Buttefield, Max Kaminsky, Dick Cary (tp), Jack Teagarden (tb, vo), Pee Wee Russell (cl), Sidney Bechet (sop), Emie Caceres (bar), Gene Schroeder (p), Eddie Condon (g, vo, mc), Sid Weiss (b), Johnny Blowers (dm), Lee Wiley (vo).

NBC Blue Network Show 30 (AFRS 28) broadcast at Ritz Theatre, two titles have BH:

- **There’s A Small Hotel**

  Intro 4 bars to solo 32 bars.
  Solo 20 bars to coda. (S)

- **Impromptu Ensemble**

  Solo 24 bars. (FM)

A beautiful rendering of “… Hotel”, not far from straight playing, but who cares?

**CASA LOMA ORCHESTRA**

**NYC. Dec. 19, 1944**

Bigband personnel including Bobby Hackett (tp).

Three titles were recorded for Decca, but no BH.

NYC. Dec. 19, 1944

Same. Eight titles were recorded for World Transcriptions, one has been available:

- **I Don’t Care Who Knows It**

  Solo 16 bars. (S)

Postscript of Feb. 17, 2016: Have got feedback on Casa Loma, and it seems there is a great potential for fine BH. A lovely solo on “… Knows It”, available on spotify!

**EDDIE CONDON**

**NYC. Dec. 23, 1944**

Collective personnel: Bobby Hackett (cnt), Wingy Manone (tp, vo), Max Kaminsky (tp), Pee Wee Russell (cl), Emie Caceres (bar), Jess Stacy (p), Eddie Condon (g, ldr), Bob Casey (b), George Wettling (dm), Lee Wiley (vo).

NBC Blue Network Show 31 (AFRS 29) broadcast, from Ritz Theatre, four titles have BH:

- **Exactly Like You**

  Solo 32 bars. (FM)

- **Ja-Da**

  Solo 18 and 18 bars to coda. (S)

- **You’re Lucky To Me**

  In ens. (M)

- **Impromptu Ensemble**

  In ens. (FM)

A swinging trumpet battle on “Exactly …” to be noted. Always nice to hear “Ja-Da”, and lots of nice details here, but a few fluffs in the beginning of the final solo.

**BOBBY HACKETT & JACK GARDNER**

**Chi. Feb. 15, 1945**

Bobby Hackett (tp), Jack Gardner (p).

One title:

- **Ain’t Gonna Give Nobody NOTJR**

  Solo 64 bars, 32 bars 4/4 with (p) to solo 32 bars. (FM)

Postscript of Sept. 2019: A lovely duo item!!

**CASA LOMA ORCHESTRA**

**NYC. May 15, 1945**

Bigband personnel including Bobby Hackett (tp).

Three titles were recorded for Decca, but no BH.

NYC. May 16, 1945

Same. Six titles were recorded for V-Disc, only one issued:

- **No Name Jive**

  Solo 24 bars. (M)

Good solo but a fluff in bar 19.

NYC. ca. 1945

Same. Four titles were recorded for World Transcriptions, two have been available:

- **Maybe**

  Solo 32 bars. (M)

- **Savage**

  Solo 16 bars. (M)
Two additional fine trumpet soli on this session, particularly “Savage” is very noteworthy!

**EDDIE CONDON**
**NYC. May 17, 1945**

Bobby Hackett, Billy Buttefield, Yank Lawson (tp), Lou McGarity (tb), Edmond Hall (cl), Joe Dixon (bbs), Joe Bushkin (p), Eddie Condon (g), Sid Weiss (b), George Wettling (dm).

Two titles were recorded for Decca (one more without BH), one issued:

72868-A  My One And Only  Solo/straight 32 and 8 bars to coda. (S)

This BH feature is a taste of things to come, commercialized music but always nice to hear due to his unique craftsmanship and unwillingness to compromise with quality and good taste.

**CASA LOMA ORCHESTRA**
**NYC. May 31, 1945**

Personnel may include Bobby Hackett (tp).

The following seven soundtracks were recorded for Filmcraft Productions (ref. Mark Cantor): “Just A Prayer Away”, “Sentimental Journey”, “Low Gravy”, “Stars In Your Eyes”, “Just A Friend Of Yours”, “Jonah” and “Savage”. The first six have no trumpet soli but:

Savage  Unlikely solo 16 bars. (M)

There has been much debate and various opinions about this trumpet solo. I (juan) is pretty confident that this is not BH’s solo, although he is seen on the film itself. The solo is certainly very good but blown much harder than BH used to do, and when compared to the World Transcriptions version, the verdict is clear. Also, as has been mentioned, BH records (see below) for Melrose the same day, so maybe he had a day off from Casa Loma.

**BOBBY HACKETT & HIS ORCHESTRA**
**NYC. May 31, 1945**

Bobby Hackett (tp), Vernon Brown (tb), Joe Dixon (cl), Deane Kincaide (bar), Dave Bowman (p), Carl Krues (g), Bob Haggart (b), George Wettling (dm).

Four titles were recorded for Melrose (issued on Mosaic):

101-0  Pennies From Heaven  Solo/straight 32 and 16 bars. (S)
101-1  Pennies From Heaven  As above. (S)
102-1  Rose Of The Rio Grande  In ens. Solo 36 bars, last 12 with ens. (FM)
102-2  Rose Of The Rio Grande  As above. (FM)
103-1  Body And Soul  Soli 32 and 16 bars. (S)
103-4  Body And Soul  Soli 32 and 8 bars. (S)
104-2  I Want To Be Happy  In ens. Solo 8 bars. (F)

“A honey of a session!” as Dan Morgenstern puts it in his Mosaic liner notes, so true. “Pennies …” is played in a slow tempo with BH taking almost all space, even quality takes, except fluffs in the opening and near the end of the alternate. Fine swinging trumpet on “… Rio Grande”. However, the highlights on the session are the two takes of “Body And Soul”, one of 12” and one of 10” format, better Bobby Hackett than this should be difficult to find!!

From now on, the solography is not complete!! After this, the task seems too big to undertake, at least for these two modest solographers! But a few extra sessions:

**THE JUBILEE ALL STARS**
**Hollywood, ca. Oct. 1945**

Bobby Hackett, Manny Klein, Emmett Berry, Frank Wiley (tp), Vic Dickenson, Ray Conniff, Henry Coker (tb), Lem Davis, Willie Smith (as), Corky Corcoran, Babe Russin (ts), Jack Martin (bar), Juan Rolando (p), Slim Guillard (g, mc), Tiny Bam Brown (b), Nick Glicco (dm, vib).

AFRS Jubilee No. 153, two titles, no BH on “Rough Idea” but:

Sonny Boy  Solo 32 bars. (FM)

**same date**

Bobby Hackett (tp), Willie Smith (as), possibly Harry Gibson (p), Slim Guillard (g), Tiny Bam Brown (b), Nick Glicco or Leo Watson (dm).

One title:

September In The Rain  Solo/straight 16+8 bars, (as) on bridge. Solo 8 bars. Solo 8 bars to duet with (as) 8 bars to coda. (M)
Excellent playing by BH on this program, both in the small group and in the big jam session!

**BOBBY HACKETT & HIS ORCHESTRA**

**NYC. Jan. 28, 1946**

Bobby Hackett (tp), Paul Ricci (cl), Bill Stegmeier, John Pepper (as), Hank Ross, Armand Camgross (ts), Hank d’Amico (bar), Johnny Guarnieri (p), Carl Kress (g), Bob Haggart (b), Cozy Cole (dm), Bill Challis (arr, cnd).

Two titles were recorded for Brunswick, one issued:

73312-A Soft Lights And Sweet Music Solo/straight 32 and 4 bars to coda. (S)

Here the producer has found a rather commercial format, but nevertheless a quite pleasant one, and “… Sweet Music” is absolutely nice.

**BOBBY HACKETT & HIS ORCHESTRA**

**NYC. Feb. 5, 1946**

Bobby Hackett (tp), Hank d’Amico (cl), Bill Stegmeyer, John Pepper (as), Hank Ross, Wolf Tannenbaum (ts), Johnny Guarnieri (p), Carl Kress (g), Bob Haggart (b), Cozy Cole (dm), Bill Challis (arr, cnd).

Three titles were recorded for Brunswick:

73343-A Soon Solo/straight 32 and 8 bars to coda. (S)
73344-A With A Song In My Heart Solo/straight 32 and 6 bars to coda. (S)
73345-A If There’s Someone Lovelier Solo/straight 28 and 6 bars to coda. (S)

The format mentioned above is continued, and although each title is nice in itself, all are alike.

**CASA LOMA ORCHESTRA**

**NYC. Feb. 15, 1946**

Bigband personnel including Bobby Hackett (tp).

Three titles were recorded for Decca, one has BH:

73666 If I Love Again Solo/straight with orch 48 bars to coda. (S)

Postscript of May 2018: Commercial music, ok, but a beautiful performance, just like BH often presents them!

**BOBBY HACKETT & HIS ORCHESTRA**

**NYC. Feb. 15, 1946**

Bobby Hackett (tp), Hank d’Amico (cl), Bill Stegmeier, John Pepper (as), Hank Ross, Arthur Rollini (ts), Joe Bushkin (p), Carl Kress (g), Bob Haggart (b), unknown (dm).

Four titles were recorded for Brunswick, three issued:

73372-A Easy To Love Solo/straight 32 and 8 bars to coda. (S)
73374 More Than You Know Solo/straight 32 and 8 bars to coda. (S)
73375-A What Is There To Say? Solo/straight 32 and 4 bars to coda. (S)

Yes, exactly, all are alike.

**CASA LOMA ORCHESTRA**

**NYC. ca. 1946**

Bigband personnel including Bobby Hackett (tp).

Twelve titles were recorded for World Transcriptions, no BH on “Hold The Phone”, nine not available but:

If I Love Again Solo/straight 36 bars to coda. (S)
After You’ve Gone Solo 18 bars (S) to 32 bars (FM) to coda. (S)

Finally, here are two utterly noteworthy examples of BH’s association with the Casa Loma orchestra! Both are feature numbers for trumpet. “… Again” is rather straight but with exquisite details. “After …” starts in an unusual slow tempo but changes between to fast medium, a great performance you will love (spotify)!

This encourage us to find the rest of the recordings with this band in the period 1944-46, can you help?

**EDDIE CONDON**

**possibly summer 1946**

Bobby Hackett (tp), unknown (tb), Joe Dixon (cl), Harry Carney (bar), James P. Johnson (p), Eddie Condon (g), Sid Weiss (b), unknown (dm).

Department of State program, 27, D.26954, one title:

5:25 Lady Be Good With ens. Solo 32 bars. With ens. (FM)
Postscript of Sept. 2019: Nice discovery, excellent trumpet solo, note the opening phrase!

RALPH FLANAGAN & HIS ORCHESTRA

NYC. June 1946
Bigband personnel including Bobby Hackett (tp).
Eight titles were recorded for Rainbow, three have BH:

- Make Believe Solo 8 bars. (SM)
- St. Louis Blues Solo 12 bars. (M)
- Basin Street Blues Solo 12 bars. (S)

Nice without being sensational.

BOBBY HACKETT WITH ROY ROSS' RAGAMUFFINS

NYC. March 1, 1947
Bobby Hackett (cnt), Nat Brown (cl, ts), Roy Ross (accordion, org), Nicky Tagg (p), Al Caiola (g), possibly Mack Shopnick (b), Phil Kraus (dm, vib).
Two titles were recorded for VDisc, one issued:

- 390 The Man I Love Soli 32 and 16 bars to coda. (S)

A lovely version of “The Man …”!!

PEANUTS HUCKO & HIS MEN

NYC. April 10, 1947
Bobby Hackett, Max Kaminsky (tp), Fred Ohms (tb), Peanuts Hucko (cl), Cliff Strickland (alt-cl, ts, bxs), Charlie Queener (p), Jack Lesberg (b), Morey Feld (dm), Liza Morrow (vo).
Two titles were recorded for V-Disc:

- 444 Jam With Peanuts Solo 32 bars. (F)
- 448 Blintzes Bagel Boogie Solo 20 bars. (FM)

Good soli here, particularly “... Peanuts”, which in fact is “Sweet Georgia Brown” is great in a quite fast tempo.

LOUIS ARMSTRONG

NYC. May 17, 1947
Louis Armstrong (tp, vo), Bobby Hackett (cnt), Jack Teagarden (tb, vo), Peanuts Hucko (cl), Dick Cary (p), Bob Haggart (b), Sid Catlett, George Wettling (dm).
Fifteen titles were recorded in two concerts at Town Hall, six have BH:

- Sweethearts On Parade Obbligato parts. (S)
- Pennies From Heaven Obbligato parts. In ens. (S)
- I Can’t Give You Anything BL Weak obbligato parts. (M)
- Back O'Town Blues Obbligato parts. (S)
- Rockin’ Chair Intro duet with (tp) 8 bars. (S)
- Ain’t Misbehavin’ Solo 16 bars. (M)

BH’s role in this group is ‘only’ to play some beautiful background to Louis’ vocals in slow tempo, something he of course does with great professionalism. The recording quality is so and so, but particularly in “Back …” he is prominent. The session highlight is nevertheless the magnificent introduction of “… Chair” where the two giants play together, oh yeah!!! Postscript of July 12, 2018: Tom Buhmann states quite correctly that I have missed out “Ain’t …”, in fact the most important BH item from this session, great playing! He plays the last half of the chorus started by clarinet. Also, not that important, but takes the last eight of the introduction when Louis prepares for singing.

LOUIS ARMSTRONG

NYC. June 10, 1947
Louis Armstrong (tp, vo), Bobby Hackett (cnt), Jack Teagarden (tb, vo), Peanuts Hucko (cl, ts), Ernie Caceres (cl, bar), Johnny Guarneri (p), Al Casey (g), Al Hall (b), Cozy Cole (dm).
Four titles were recorded for Victor, but no BH.

LOUIS ARMSTRONG

NYC. June 19, 1947
Louis Armstrong (tp, vo), Bobby Hackett (cnt), Jack Teagarden (tb, vo), Peanuts Hucko (cl, ts), Ernie Caceres (bar, bxs), Dick Cary (p), Jack Lesberg (b), Sid Catlett, George Wettling (dm).
NBC broadcast from Winter Garden Theatre, seven titles, but no BH.

EDDIE CONDON

NYC. Aug. 5, 1947
Bobby Hackett, Max Kaminsky (tp), Jack Teagarden (tp, vo), Peanuts Hucko (cl, ts), Ernie Caceres (bar), Joe Bushkin (p), Eddie Condon (g), Jack Lesberg (b), George Wettling (dm).

Four titles were recorded for Decca, three have BH:

- 74023-A My Melancholy Baby Obbligato parts. (SM)
- 74023-alt1 My Melancholy Baby As above. (SM)
- 74025-A Nobody Knows Solo 8 bars (mute). (SM)
- 74025-alt1 Nobody Knows No solo. (SM)
- 74026-A We Called It Music Solo 8 bars (open). (M)
- 74026-reh We Called It Music As above. (M)

This is definitely Teagarden’s session, but with a few nice BH contributions. Note that the layout is different on the two versions of “… Knows”.

BOBBY HACKETT  
NYC. Aug. 27, 1947
Bobby Hackett (cnt), probably Sol Yaged (cl), Jimmy Jones (p), Chuck Wayne (g), Frank Bode (dm).

Five titles were recorded at Village Vanguard, two have been available:

- S’ Wonderful With ens 32 bars. Solo 64 bars. With ens 32 bars. (M)
- Limehouse Blues With ens 32 bars. Solo 64 bars. With ens 32 bars. (FM)
- How High The Moon
- Mean To Me
- Just You, Just Me

Postscript of Sept. 2018. These just came to my notice! Excellent BH on cornet here!

FRANK SINATRA  
NYC. Nov. 5, 1947
Bobby Hackett (tp), Bernard Kaufman (fl), Mitch Miller (oboe), Bob Kitsis (p), Matty Golizio (g), Herman Alpert (b), Johnny Blowers (dm), four (strings), Frank Sinatra (vo), Alex Stordahl (cnd).

One title was recorded for Columbia (no BH present on “When You Awake” and “It Never Entered My Mind”):

- 38333-1 I’ve Got A Crush On You Intro. Obbligato parts. Solo 10 bars. Coda. (S)
- 38333-PB2 I’ve Got A Crush On You As above. (S)

These are not jazz items in the real sense, nevertheless there is more jazz in Frank’s vocal than in many renowned jazz vocalists, and BH has a prominent role, playing beautifully. Note the different intros!!

HANK D’AMICO ORCHESTRA  
NYC. Nov. 7, 1947
Bigband personnel including Bobby Hackett (tp), Hank d’Amico (cl).

Four titles were recorded for MGM, three issued, one has BH:

- 388-4 I Only Have Eyes For You Solo 8 bars. (SM)

FRANK SINATRA  
NYC. Nov. 9, 1947
Bigband personnel including Bobby Hackett (tp), (strings), Frank Sinatra (vo).

One title was recorded for Columbia (no BH present on “I’m Glad There Is You”):

- 38369-1 Body And Soul Intro. Obbligato parts. Solo 8 bars. Coda. (S)
- 38369-PB3 Body And Soul As above. (S)

Sorry to have missed out this and the previous Sinatra session, but I have not heard them before, and they are not in Lord’s disco (thank you David!). Beautiful music deserving its place in the Bobby Hackett solography!

BOBBY HACKETT WITH JOE GALLICII’s ORCHESTRA  
May 23, 1948
Bobby Hackett (tp) with orchestra.

One title from Dave Garroway Show, recorded on Audiodisc acetate, Per Borthen collection (June 2019):
3:06 If I Love Again
Solo 48 bars. (S)

This is all BH, sweet and nice without bringing anything new.

BOBBY HACKETT & HIS DIXIELANDERS  NYC. June 22, 1948
Bobby Hackett (cnt), Cutty Cutshall (tb), Peanuts Hucko (cl), Ernie Caceres (bar),
Charlie Queener (p), Eddie Condon (g), Irv Manning (b), Morey Feld (dm).
Recording session for VDisc at WOR Guild Theatre Playhouse:

Presentation 1
Solo 4 bars. In ens. (FM)

Oh Baby
Solo 32 bars. In ens. (FM)

Wrap Your Troubles In Dreams (NC)
In ens. Solo 8 bars. (SM)

Wrap Your Troubles In Dreams
As above. (SM)

Struttin’ With Some Barbecue
In ens. Solo 32 bars. (FM)

Presentation 2 (NC)
Solo 4 bars. (M)

On The Sunny Side Of The Street
In ens. (SM)

My Honey’s Lovin’ Arms (NC)
In ens. (F)

My Honey’s Lovin’ Arms
In ens. Solo 32 bars. (F)

Fidgety Feet

An excellent session as such!

JOE BUSHKIN  NYC. Oct. 26, 1948
Bobby Hackett (cnt), Joe Bushkin (p).
Two titles were recorded for V-Disc at WOR Guild Theatre/Playhouse:

You Do Something To Me
Duet with (p) 16+8 bars, (p)
on bridge. Duet with (p)
8 and 16 bars to coda. (SM)

Soft Lights And Sweet Music (BD)
Duet with (p) 32 bars. (M)

This is highly enjoyable, a must for you BH fans! On “You Do …”, the first
chorus has piano on the bridge, the second has BH on the bridge, and then he
leads for half a chorus to close; why not a full chorus, or was the three minutes
limit important here? “Soft Lights …” in a slightly faster tempo has a fine duet
chorus, then a piano chorus but is then aborted. Lovely music!

BILL GREEN’s ALL STARS  North Brunswick, NJ. Feb. 27, 1949
Bobby Hackett (cnt), George Stevenson (tb), Tony Parenti (cl), Dom Anghelone (ts),
Reggie Roman (p), Joe Pitko (b), Frank Romeo (dm), Gus Kohlman (vo).
Three titles were recorded live at Rustic Lodge:

Dinah
In ens. Solo 64 bars. (FM)

The Blues
Obbligato parts. Solo 12 bars. (S)
Solo 36 bars. In ens. (FM)

Way Down Yonder In New Orleans
Solo 56 bars. In ens. (FM)

A lively jam session, and BH plays with fire and inspiration on all items.

EDDIE CONDON JAM SESSION  NYC. March 5, 1949
Personnel including Bobby Hackett (tp).
“Condon’s Floor Show”, TV-cast, not available.

EDDIE CONDON JAM SESSION  NYC. March 19, 1949
Collective personnel: Hot Lips Page (tp, vo), Bobby Hackett (cnt), Cutty Cutshall (tp), Peanuts Hucko (cl), Sidney Bechet (sop), Gene Schroeder, Ralph Sutton (p),
Eddie Condon (g), Jack Lesberg (b), Buddy Rich (dm), possibly Helen Ward (vo).
“Condon’s Floor Show”, TV-cast, at least one title:

Jada
Solo with ens 18 bars.
Solo 36 bars to coda. (S)

NYC. April 16, 1949
Collective personnel: Bobby Hackett (cnt), Cutty Cutshall (tb), Ernie Caceres (cl), Sidney Bechet (sop), Dick Cary (p, org), Eddie Condon (g), Jack Lesberg (b), J. C. Heard, Buddy Rich (dm), Helen Ward (vo).

“Condon’s Floor Show”, TV-cast, at least the following have BH:

- Fascinating Rhythm Solo 4 bars. (FM)
- I Got A Crush On You Obbligato parts. (S)
- Embraceable You Solo 32 bars. (S)
- But Not For Me Intro 4 bars. Solo 16 bars. Obbligato parts. (S)

NYC. May 21, 1949

Collective personnel: Bobby Hackett (cnt), Cutty Cutshall (tb), Dick Cary (althrn), Peanuts Hucko (cl, ts), Ernie Caceres (bar), Joe Bushkin, Hank Duncan, Willie “The Lion” Smith (p), Eddie Condon (g), Jack Lesberg (b), Buddy Rich (dm), Thelma Carpenter (vo).

“Condon’s Floor Show”, TV-cast, at least the following have BH:

- Squeeze Me Solo 32 bars. (S)
- The Joint Is Jumpin’ In ens. (FM)
- Ain’t Misbehavin’ Solo 16 bars. (S)

Beautiful BH in slow tempo on these programs!

EDDIE CONDON’s T.V. ORCHESTRA

NYC. May 25, 1949

Bobby Hackett (cnt), Will Bradley (tb), Dick Cary (althrn), Peanuts Hucko (cl, ts), Ernie Caceres (bar), Joe Bushkin (p), Eddie Condon (g), Jack Lesberg (b), Sid Catlett (dm), Ruth Brown (vo-238,239).

Four titles were recorded for Atlantic, 238,239 issued as RUTH BROWN, no BH on these but:

- 236 Seem Like Old Times Solo/straight with orch 32 and 18 bars to very long coda. (S)
- 237 Time Carries On Solo 12 bars. In ens. (M)

Nice but commercially oriented “… Old Times” is the highlight.

EDDIE CONDON JAM SESSION

NYC. June 25, 1949

Collective personnel: Bobby Hackett (cnt), Cutty Cutshall (tb), Dick Cary (althrn), Peanuts Hucko (cl), Sidney Bechet (sop), Ernie Caceres (bar), Joe Bushkin, Hank Duncan, Willie “The Lion” Smith (p), Eddie Condon (g), Jack Lesberg (b, vo), Sid Catlett, Buddy Rich (dm).

“Condon’s Floor Show”, TV-cast, at least the following have BH:

- Seems Like An Old Tune Soli 32 and 18 bars to coda. (S)

NYC. Aug. 27, 1949

Bobby Hackett (cnt), Cutty Cutshall (tb), Pee Wee Russell (cl), Sidney Bechet (sop), Joe Bushkin (p), Eddie Condon (g), Jack Lesberg (b), George Wettling (dm).

“Condon’s Floor Show”, TV-cast, the following have BH:

- One Hour In ens. (S)
- Medley Intro Solo 4 bars. In ens. (FM)
- Soft Lights And Sweet Music Solo 36 bars. (S)
- I Got Rhythm Solo 34 bars. (F)

Particularly the two slow solo items are very beautiful!

EDDIE CONDON JAM SESSION

NYC. Sept. 10, 1949

Louis Armstrong (tp, vo), Bobby Hackett (cnt), Jack Teagarden (tb, vo), Peanuts Hucko (cl, ts), Ernie Caceres (cl, bar), Joe Bushkin (p), Eddie Condon (g), Jack Lesberg (b), George Wettling (dm).

TV-cast, six titles, one has BH:

- Sweet Georgia Brown Soli 4 and 32 bars. In ens. (F)

BILLIE HOLIDAY WITH
GORDON JENKINS & HIS ORCHESTRA

NYC. Oct. 19, 1949
Bobby Hackett (tp), Milt Yaner (cl, as), John Fulton (fl, cl, ts), Bernie Leighton (p), Tony Mototta (g), Jack Lesberg (b), Bunny Shawker (dm), five (strings), Billie Holiday (vo), Gordon Jenkins (cnd).

Four titles were recorded for Decca but no trumpet soli.

BOBBY HACKETT
NYC. Nov. 9, 1949
Personnel including Bobby Hackett (cnt).
Seven titles were recorded live at Nick’s, Greenwich Village, not available.

BOBBY HACKETT WITH THE JUMPING JACKS
1949
Bobby Hackett (tp), unknown (vib), (p), (g), (b), (dm).
Four titles probably from Transcriptions:

Stars Fell On Alabama Soli 32 and 16 bars to long coda. (S)
I Can’t Believe That You’re ILWM Solo 32 bars. Solo 16+8 bars, (g) on bridge. (M)
Singin’ The Blues Intro 4 bars to solo 32 bars. Solo 16 bars to coda. (SM)
Isle Of Capri Soli 64 and 16 bars to coda. (M)

Nice session to conclude the forties with! BH really seems to enjoy this group. My highlight is the slow “... Alabama”.

JERRY JEROME
NYC. early 1950s
Personnel including Bobby Hackett (cnt), Tyree Glenn (tb), many (strings), Jerry Jerome (dir). One title:

Miller Light Beer Solo 12 bars to long coda. (S)

An interesting example of a commercial, routine playing but nice as always.

EDDIE CONDON
NYC. 1950
Personnel including Bobby Hackett (cnt).
Broadcast, Voice of America transcription, not available.

JOE SULLIVAN
NYC. March 11, 1950
Bobby Hackett (cnt), Edmond Hall (cl), Joe Sullivan (p), George Wettling (dm).
Concert, three titles, not available.

TOMMY DORSEY & HIS CLAMBAKE SEVEN
NYC. April 10, 1950
Bobby Hackett (tp), Tommy Dorsey (tb), Peanuts Hunko (cl), Arthur Rollini (ts), Gene Schoeder (p), Jack Lesberg (b), Buzzy Drootin (dm).
Four titles were recorded for Victor:

4153-1 Way Down Yonder In New Orleans Break. Solo 28 bars. (FM)
4154-1 Tiger Rag Solo 16 bars. (F)
4155-1 Original Dixieland One Step In ens. Solo 16 bars. (F)
4156-1 Bright Eyes Solo 16 bars. (M)

Sparkling soli here, particularly “... Eyes” and “... New Orleans are something!

HERB JEFFRIES
NYC. May 2, 1950
Bobby Hackett (cnt), George Wright (org), Jack Kelly (p), Mundell Lowe (g), unknown (b), Frank Carroll (dm), Jack Kelly (dir).
Five titles were recorded for Columbia/Harmony, four not available but:

Love Me Long – Hold Me Close Intro 4 bars. Obligato parts. Solo 8 bars. (S)

Beautiful!!

BOBBY HACKETT
NYC. Aug. 31, 1950
Bobby Hackett (cnt), Charlie Queener (p), Carl Kress (g), Bob Casey (b), Don Marino (dm), (vo-ens-44287).
Four titles were recorded for Columbia:

44285 Royal Garden Blues alt. Solo/straight 4+48+4+12 bars. Solo 24 bars. Coda 4 bars. (FM)
44285-1 Royal Garden Blues As above. (FM)
44286-1 Struttin’ With Some Barbecue Intro 4 bars to solo/straight 32 bars. 32 bars 4/4 with (p)/(b).
Solo 32 bars to coda. (FM)

44287-1 Sleepy Head  Intro and solo with (vo-ens) 56 bars. (S)
44288-1 I’ve Got The World On A String  Solo/straight 48 bars, partly with (g), to coda. (S)

This is the first Bobby Hackett leader session in a long time, and quoting Richard Sudhalter’s excellent liner notes on Mosaic: “The LP was well timed. The cornetist was enjoying a career renaissance; he’d stopped drinking …”. Fine driving cornet playing on the upper tempi, and beautiful as only BH could make it in slow tempo. Possibly some will select “… String” as the highlight, but the mysterious “Sleepy …” (read the liner notes!) gets me.

BOBBY HACKETT  NYC. Sept. 15, 1950
Bobby Hackett (cnt), Charlie Queener (p), Danny Perri (g), Bob Casey (b), Cliff Leeman (dm).
Five titles were recorded for Columbia:

44357-1 Fidgety Feet  Solo/straight 4+64 bars.  Solo 40 bars to coda. (FM)
44358-1 Tin Roof Blues  Solo 24 bars.  Acc. (b).  Solo 12 bars to coda. (S)
44359-1 Oh, Baby!  Straight 32 bars to solo 32 bars.  Solo 8 bars.  Solo/straight 32 bars. (FM)
44360-1 A Room With A View  Soli 32 and 8 bars to coda. (S)
44361-4 What A Difference A Day Made  Soli 32, 8 and 8 bars (mute) to 16 bars (open). (SM)

Possibly even better than the former session due to a more swinging drummer. Very fine cornet (or trumpet?) playing in upper tempi, but again the slow performances are enchanting; starting with a highly enjoyable “Tin Roof …” and continuing with a delightful highlight in “… View”, and suddenly he picks up the mute in “… Difference …”, magnificent! BH is certainly on the map these days, as good as ever before!

LEE WILEY & BOBBY HACKETT WITH JOE BUSHKIN & HIS SWINGING STRINGS  NYC. Dec. 12, 1950
Personnel as below, slightly enlarged.
Four titles were recorded for Columbia:

44721-1 A Woman’s Intuition  Intro 4 bars.  Obbligato parts.  Solo 8 bars.  Coda. (S)
44722-1 Sugar  Intro 2 bars.  Obbligato parts.  Solo 8 bars. (S)
44723-1 Any Time, Any Day, Anywhere  Obbligato parts.  Intro 4 bars.  Solo 16 bars. (SM)
44724-1 A Ghost Of A Chance  Intro 2 bars.  Obbligato parts.  Solo 4 bars.  Coda. (S)

NYC. Dec. 14, 1950

Bobby Hackett (cnt), Joe Bushkin (p, cel), Bill Goodall (b), Charlie Smith (dm), (strings), Lee Wiley (vo)
Four titles:

44732-1 Oh! Look At Me Know  Intro 2 bars.  Obbligato parts.  Solo 16 bars. (S)
44733-1 Street Of Dreams  Intro 4 bars.  Obbligato parts.  Solo 8 bars. (S)
44734-1 Manhattan  Intro 2 bars.  Obbligato parts.  Solo 8 bars. (SM)
44735-1 I’ve Got A Crush On You  Intro 4 bars.  Obbligato parts.  Solo 8 bars. (S)

Beautiful music with BH playing behind Lee Wiley most of the time with his usual concentration and inspiration. Only slightly negative thing to remark is that all items are almost in the same tempo, with almost the same layout, so there is no need to play more than a few, can you imagine!
Late history:


Last recording session in 1975.