

The
TRUMPET
of
ROBERT MOORE
“BOBBY”

Solographer: Jan Evensmo
Last updated: March 25, 2011

Born: NYC. 1919
Died: Not known

Introduction:

Bobby Moore was a talented trumpeter with a great future in the Basie band, but fate would have it otherwise. He deserves to be remembered.

History:

Played trumpet from an early age, made debut at Apollo Theatre, New York, during summer of 1935, playing in a talent contest accompanied by Willie Bryant's orchestra. Subsequently played at the Black Cat, New York, until joining Count Basie (then in Pittsburgh) in March 1937, remaining with the band until ca. October 1937. Played briefly with Hot Lips Page band in 1938; during following year worked in the short-lived band organized by Jimmy Mundy and for a short while in Benny Carter bigband. Early in 1940 he suffered a complete nervous breakdown, and after spending a short time in Bellevue Hospital, New York, he was committed to the Mattewan Institution. Never returned to professional music (ref. John Chilton).

Message:

Anybody knows Bobby Moore's date of death?

BOBBY MOORE SOLOGRAPHY

COUNT BASIE & HIS ORCHESTRA **NYC. March 26, 1937**

Ed Lewis, Buck Clayton, Bobby Moore (tp), George Hunt, Dan Minor (tb), Caghey Roberts (as), Herschel Evans, Lester Young (cl, ts), Ronald "Jack" Washington (as, bar), Count Basie (p), Freddie Green (g), Walter Page (b), Jo Jones (dm), Jimmy Rushing (vo).

Four titles were recorded for Decca, three have BM:

62078-A	Exactly Like You	Solo 6 bars (open). (FM)
62079-A	Boo-Hoo	Solo 24 bars (open). (FM)
62080-A	The Glory Of Love	Solo 32 bars (open). (FM)

Here comes one of the legendary swing trumpeters! With BM, the Count got a worthy companion to Buck, a young, colourful performer with his own ideas. Preferring the open horn, he plays with strength and conviction. Note the brief solo on "Exactly ..." to be convinced! Of the two other titles, "... Love" is particularly interesting.

COUNT BASIE & HIS ORCHESTRA **NYC. June 30, 1937**

Personnel as March 26, except Earl Warren (as) replaces Roberts.

Broadcast from Savoy Ballroom, eleven titles, four have BM:

Shout And Feel It	Solo 16 bars (open). (F)
The You And Me That Used To Be	Solo 16 bars (open). (M)
The Count Steps In	Solo 8 bars (open). (F)
I'll Always Be In Love With You	Solo 8 bars (open). (M)

Confirming the good impression from the first recording session, BM takes some fine trumpet soli here, particularly "The You And Me ..." has a highly original and exciting one, and also "... Love With You" is demonstrating his qualities.

COUNT BASIE & HIS ORCHESTRA **NYC. July 7, 1937**

Personnel as June 30.

Four titles were recorded for Decca, but no BM.

NYC. Aug. 9, 1937

Same except Eddie Durham (tb, g) replaces Hunt. Four titles, but no BM.

NYC. Oct. 13, 1937

Same with Benny Morton (tb) added. Four titles, one has BM:

62683-A	Out The Window	Solo 32 bars (mute). (F)
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Although with a minor fluff, BM offers another personal trumpet solo, for the first time with mute.

COUNT BASIE & HIS ORCHESTRA **Cedar Grove, NJ. Nov. 3, 1937**

Personnel as Oct. 13.

CBS broadcast from Meadowbrook Lounge. Eight titles, three have BM:

Rhythm In My Nursery R	Weak obbligato 48 bars (mute). (M)
John's Idea	Break to solo 32 bars (open). (FM)
Dinah	Faint obbligato parts with (ts-LY). Solo 8 bars (mute). (F)

Faint but exciting background trumpet on "Rhythm ..." and "Dinah". A colourful and exciting open solo on "... Idea" gives so much promise for the future, but then it is (almost) all over. Too bad, BM was great and could have become even greater!

HOT LIPS PAGE & HIS ORCHESTRA **NYC. April 27, 1938**

Hot Lips Page (tp, vo), Eddie Mullens, Bobby Moore (tp), George Stevenson, Harry White (tb), Ben Smith (cl, as), Ulysses Scott (as), Benny Waters, Ernie Powell (ts), Jimmy Reynolds (p), Connie Wainwright (g), Abe Bolar (b), Alfred Taylor (dm).

Six titles were recorded for Bluebird, one seems to have BM:

22923-1 Jumpin' Solo 8 bars. (FM)

The brief but strong and fine trumpet solo on "Jumpin'" is certainly not by HLP, and it sounds much like BM with the Basie, so one might conclude it is him.

NYC. June 24, 1938

Personnel as above, except Dave Page (tp), Ben Williams (as) replace Mullens and Scott.

Six titles were recorded for Bluebird, but no BM.

JIMMY MUNDY & HIS ORCHESTRA

NYC. Dec. 19, 1939

Jimmy Mundy (arr, dir), Frank Galbreath, Bobby Moore, Leroy Hill (tp), Ed Johnson, Ed McConnell, Norman Greene (tb), Ted Barnett, Skippy Williams (as, bsx), Al Gibson, Jimmy Hamilton (cl, ts), Bill Doggett (p), Connie Wainwright (g), Jack Jarvis (b), Shadow Wilson (dm), Madeleine Greene (vo).

Four titles were recorded for Varsity, two have trumpet, possibly BM:

1181-1 Sunday Special Soli 8 and 8 bars (open). (M)

1183-1 All Aboard Solo 12 bars (open). Solo 4 bars
(mute)? Solo 4 bars (open). (M)

Although it cannot be said with certainty, it seems highly probable that the two modern oriented trumpet soli on "Sunday ...", the first a bit stumbling, are played by BM. Same man also with open horn also on "All ...", while the muted part is less likely. Too bad we lost Bobby Moore so early, he had lots of talent and might have found his place among the really big ones on his instrument!

No further recording sessions.

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