

To: UConn Jazz Ensembles
From: Professors MacDonald and Mastroianni
Re: Listening Assignments

The listening assignments for this semester consist of listening to a recording of your choice by Count Basie, Duke Ellington, and Thad Jones/Mel Lewis. The recordings must be a large jazz ensemble and not a combo. The due dates are specified in the syllabus and are as follows:

September 30 (Count Basie)

October 21 (Duke Ellington)

November 18 (Thad Jones/Mel Lewis/Vanguard Jazz Orchestra)

Please respond to the questions below and submit to the following Google Drive:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1bkRzTOUDARaLRiTWBYNam7DTRBbVmN3P?usp=sharing>

1. Name and date of the recording:
2. Personnel:
3. Repertoire. List the tunes (and the arrangers, if possible).
4. What stylistic nuances in the ensemble playing will help inform your ensemble playing?
5. What section passages, specific to the instrument that you play, can you incorporate into your section playing?
6. Which soloist on your instrument inspired you? Be specific with regard to jazz nuances such as style, jazz vocabulary, articulation, range, etc.
7. Select one track to which you will listen intently to the rhythm section. How did they create variety and sustain interest? Comment specifically on their accompaniment of soloists.
8. Identify your favorite musical moment on the album. How do you believe it was achieved? What led to this occurrence?
9. Consider and place the recording into historical, social and/or cultural context. What was happening in the USA and the world around this time? What major events occurred just prior to this recording session?