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COUNT BASIE/Basie Plays Hefti: Neal Hefti was one of those cats that was around when the really good arrangers were not only a critical part of the session, they were name brands unto themselves as well. This collection rounds up all the Basie/Hefti tracks extant, with the exception of those already copiously reissued on "The Atomic Mr. Basie", and hits are literally delivered to all fields. An easy going simpatico rules these tunes as the big band is taken to unique places with great results ensuing. The sound of nascent, suburban, cool backyard parties from another time and place, this music lives on mightier than the times it sprang from. Timeless, classic stuff coming from a place where those words aren't used lightly. A winner from end to all it's various ends. 131558

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