

Count Basie - *Live in Berlin & Stockholm 1968* 4/3

O's Notes: Pianist Count Basie led his orchestra to years of fame during both good times and bad. These live sessions in Berlin and Stockholm during 1968 find his band peaking in performance to the delight of the European audiences. The famed swing band was without the late Lester Young (sax) but a young Eddie "Lockjaw" Davis filled his shoes admirably with strong solos; check him out on "Cherokee". Freddie Green (g) also stars. Marlena Shaw sings a few numbers notably "On A Clear Day" and "Muddy Water Blues". The arrangements are great and the soloists strong showing why Count's swing band was ever so popular.

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