

JAZZ LINES PUBLICATIONS

*Presents*

**MANHATTAN**

RECORDED BY ELLA FITZGERALD

ARRANGED BY BUDDY BREGMAN

PREPARED FOR PUBLICATION BY ROB DUBOFF AND JEFFREY SULTANOF

**FULL SCORE**

FROM THE ORIGINAL MANUSCRIPT

JLP-9741

LYRICS BY LORENZ HART

MUSIC BY RICHARD RODGERS

COPYRIGHT © 2021 THE JAZZ LINES FOUNDATION, INC.  
LOGOS, GRAPHICS, AND LAYOUT COPYRIGHT © 2021 THE JAZZ LINES FOUNDATION INC.

THIS ARRANGEMENT HAS BEEN PUBLISHED WITH THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE ELLA FITZGERALD ESTATE.

PUBLISHED BY THE JAZZ LINES FOUNDATION INC.,

A NOT-FOR-PROFIT JAZZ RESEARCH ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO PRESERVING AND PROMOTING AMERICA'S MUSICAL HERITAGE.



THE JAZZ LINES FOUNDATION INC.  
PO BOX 1236  
SARATOGA SPRINGS NY 12866 USA

## **MANHATTAN (1956)**

### **Background:**

Truly the First Lady of Song, Ella Fitzgerald was one of the greatest singers in American history. As her official website perfectly states, “Her voice was flexible, wide-ranging, accurate, and ageless. She could sing sultry ballads, sweet jazz, and imitate every instrument in an orchestra.” She enthralled audiences all over the world for decades, worked with everyone from Duke, Dizzy, and Count Basie to Nat King Cole and Sinatra, and left a recorded legacy that is second to none.

Born Ella Jane Fitzgerald on April 25, 1917 in Newport News, Virginia, Ella endured some rough times as a child. Following the split of her parents, she moved with her mother to Yonkers, NY, and sadly lost her mother at age 15. Fighting poverty, Ella eventually used these difficult times as motivation in life, and continued to harbor dreams of being an entertainer. She made her public singing debut at the Apollo Theater in Harlem on November 21, 1934 at age 17. Buoyed by her success, she continued to enter and win singing contests, and soon was singing with Chick Webb’s band. In 1938 she quickly gained acclaim with her version of A-Tisket, A Tasket, which was a huge success and made her famous at age 21; for over 50 years she remained a star.

Following Webb’s death in 1939, Ella briefly led the band, and soon struck out on her own as a solo artist, taking on various projects as well as making her film debut. While on tour with Dizzy Gillespie in the mid-1940s, Ella began to respond to the massive changes in the jazz world, as swing was giving way to bebop; she began incorporating scat singing into her repertoire as a reaction to the improvisational nature of bebop. As she recalled years later “I just tried to do [with my voice] what I heard the horns in the band doing.” During this period, she also met bassist Ray Brown, whom she was to marry and adopt a son with. Through Brown, she met jazz impresario and producer Norman Granz, and this relationship led to her greatest stardom and achievements.

Ella joined Granz’s Jazz at the Philharmonic Tour, recorded classic albums with Louis Armstrong, and from 1956-1964 worked on what may be her greatest legacy, the Song Book series, featuring the music of Cole Porter, Rodgers and Hart, Duke Ellington, Irving Berlin, the Gershwins, Harold Arlen, Jerome Kern, and Johnny Mercer. It can be argued that along with the seminal work of Frank Sinatra, these records created some of the greatest and most definitive versions of a huge portion of what comprises the Great American Songbook. Ira Gershwin famously remarked, “I never knew how good our songs were until I heard Ella Fitzgerald sing them.” Ella also did what music can uniquely do in tying together many strands of American culture at a time when race relations were a major issue in American society. Critic Frank Rich expressed it so well shortly after Ella’s death, writing about her Song Book series: “Here was a black woman popularizing urban songs often written by immigrant Jews to a national audience of predominantly white Christians.”

Ella toured constantly during these years, and she and Granz did their part to help the burgeoning civil rights movement, fighting inequality and discrimination at every turn, bravely even in the Deep South. During the 1960s Ella continued to tour and record, also appearing in movies and being a regular guest on all of the most popular talk and variety TV shows. Throughout the 1970s, she kept touring all over the world, and became even more well-known through a series of high-profile ad campaigns. Anyone who grew up in the 1970s remembers Ella’s “Is it live or is it Memorex” commercials.

One of the lesser-known aspects of her life at the time was her charitable side. She was known as a very shy person who was protective of her privacy. As a way to help others avoid what she went through as a child, she gave frequent generous donations to all sorts of groups and organizations that helped underprivileged youth, and her official website even suggests that continuing to be able to this was a major driving force behind the unrelenting touring schedule she continued to maintain. She cared for her sister Frances’ family after Frances passed as well.

By the 1980s, she had acquired countless awards and honors, among them 13 Grammys including the Lifetime Achievement Award and the Presidential Medal of Freedom. But the endless touring schedule did begin to take its toll, and Ella began to experience serious diabetes-related health problems. From the mid-1980s to the mid-1990s she suffered a series of surgeries and hospital stays, and by 1996 she had tired of spending so much time in hospitals. She spent her last days enjoying being outdoors at her Beverly Hills home, sitting outside and simply being with she and Ray Brown's adopted son Ray, Jr. and her granddaughter Alice. Many sources report that during her last days she reportedly said, "I just want to smell the air, listen to the birds, and hear Alice laugh."

She died in her home on June 15, 1996 at the age of 79, and the tributes were instant, huge, and international. Befitting someone of her stature, who was at the pinnacle of the entertaining world for nearly half a century and left behind a legacy that will never diminish in its beauty and importance, her archival material and arrangements reside at the Library of Congress and the Smithsonian.

There are few figures in American history who left behind what Ella did. A shy, reticent woman from very humble beginnings, she thrilled countless millions all over the world with her beautiful voice and her singular way of interpreting a tune. She sang in so many styles, worked with so many of the best composers and arrangers in the music business, performed with most of the other greatest stars of her era, and left a body of work that truly enhances the American experience.

### **The Music:**

Richard Rodgers's and Lorenz Hart's musical tribute to New York City was given a fine treatment by vocalist Ella Fitzgerald and arranger Buddy Bregman on the former's 1956 album *Ella Fitzgerald Sings the Rodgers and Hart Song Book*.

### **Notes to the Conductor:**

Although not overwhelmingly difficult technically, capturing the highly cutesy performance will require a high level of musical attentiveness. A simple but lovely clarinet solo over some warm horn and string textures sets up Fitzgerald's appearance at measure 5. The verse is taken at a quick rubato clip, so be sure that your ensemble follows the vocalist as closely as possible during this section. The melody proper begins at measure 21, settling in to a pleasantly jaunty medium swing feel. Said melody is repeated twice, with the same set of backgrounds accompanying two different verses that contain numerous nods to some of the more notable Big Apple sightseeing spots (as well as a cheeky nod to fellow musical masters Lerner and Lowe). The woodwinds and horns are regularly tasked with performing cloyingly cute triplet figures that should be consistently short and light. The strings' tasks are generally limited to simple, but rich, background textures. The ensemble should never allow their volume level to get too loud, and the rhythm section should maintain a genial bounciness at all times.

This publication has been prepared from the original set of parts used during the 1956 recording session - this is not a transcription.

Doug DuBoff, Dylan Canterbury, and Rob DuBoff  
- January 2021



45 ELLA FITZGERALD

FLUTE 1

MANHATTAN

FLUTE in 4

in 2

in 4

yes

Here is the original flute 1 part for Manhattan, recorded in 1956.

# MANHATTAN

RECORDED BY ELLA FITZGERALD

LYRICS BY LORENZ HART, MUSIC BY RICHARD RODGERS  
ARRANGED BY BUDDY BREGMAN  
PREPARED BY ROB DUBOFF AND JEFFREY SULTANOF

## SCORE

MODERATELY, IN 2  $\text{♩} = 80$  RALL.

Vocal

Flute 1

Flute 2

Flute 3

Oboe

Clarinet 1 *solo*  
*mf*

Clarinet 2

Bass Clarinet

Bassoon *mp*

Horn in F 1 *mp*

Horn in F 2 *mp*

Horn in F 3 *mp*

Violin I *mp*

Violin II *mp*

Violin III *mp*

Viola *mp*  
*div.*

Cello *mp*

Harp *mp*

Guitar

Celeste *mp*

Piano

Acoustic Bass *arco*  
*mp*

Percussion: Glockenspiel

Drum Set Brushes

5 FASTER IN 2  $\text{♩} = 100$

Vox. *mp*  
Sum - mer jour - neys to Ni - ag - ra and to oth - er places — ag - gra - vate all our cares. We'll save our fares,

Fl. 1 *mp*

Fl. 2 *mp*

Fl. 3 *mp*

Ob. *mp*

Cl. 1 *mp*

Cl. 2 *mp*

Bs. Cl. *mp*

Bsn. *mp*

Hn. 1 *mp*

Hn. 2 *mp*

Hn. 3 *mp*

Vln. I *mp*

Vln. II *mp*

Vln. III *mp*

Vla. *mp*

Vc. *mp*

Hp. *mp*

Cel. *mp*

Bs. *mp* pizz.

Glk. *mp*

D. S. *mp* triangle

13 RALL. A TEMPO, IN 4  
♩ = 120

Vox. I've a coz - y lit - tle flat in what is known as old Man - hat - tan. We'll set - tle down right here in town.

Fl. 1 *mf* 3

Fl. 2 *mf* 3

Fl. 3 *mf* 3

Ob. *mf* 3

Cl. 1 *mf* 3

Cl. 2 *mf* 3

Bs. Cl. *mf* 3

Bsn. *mf* 3

Hn. 1 *mf* 3

Hn. 2 *mf* 3

Hn. 3 *mf* 3

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vln. III

Vla.

Vc.

Hp.

Cel. *mf* 3

Bs.

Glk. *mf* 3

D. S.