

## **JLP Justin Varnes' Duke Ellington Recommended Listening:**

**Never No Lament: The Blanton/Webster Band** - this is early Duke (1940s) with his best band of that era. Featuring Ben Webster on tenor saxophone.

**Duke Ellington and Louis Armstrong** - a great small group recording featuring the two most important figures in jazz history.

**Ellington Uptown** - prime 1950's Ellington playing his hits, including a super cool arrangement of Take the A Train

**Live at Newport** - this is the performance that put Ellington back on the map! Check out Diminuendo and Crescendo in Blue.

**The Far East Suite** - one of his best large works (think "jazz symphony")

**The Nutcracker Suite** - my favorite album to play during Christmas.

**Anatomy of a Murder** - he composed the Soundtrack to this Alfred Hitchcock classic.