

# THE RECORDINGS OF KATHERINE HENDERSON

## An Annotated Tentative Name-Discography

Wife of tuba player Cyrus St. Clair

### KATHERINE HENDERSON

<b>001 CLARENCE WILLIAMS' BLUE FIVE ORCHESTRA</b>	New York,	Apr. 27, 1927
Ed Allen – cnt; Charlie Irvis – tbn; Arville Harris – ten, clt; Clarence Williams – pno; Leroy Harris – bjo; Floyd Casey – dms; Katherine Henderson or ( <i>Eva Taylor</i> ) - voc		
E-4861; E-23235 Baltimore	Br 7017,	Frog DGF 37
E-4862; E-23236 Baltimore	Br 7017,	Frog DGF 37
E-4857; E-23237 Take Your Black Bottom Dance Outside	Br 7017,	Frog DGF 37

This personnel is listed uniformly by all accessible sources and so our group generally agrees. Even so, DB is utterly convinced that this singer is Eva Taylor (see Storyville 14/40 and 16/22 on the matter).

#### Notes:

- *Storyville 21*: Ed Allen (cnt); Charlie Irvis (tbn); Arville Harris (clt, ten); Clarence Williams (pno); Leroy Harris (bjo); Floyd Casey (dms); Katherine Henderson (vcl).

- *Lord, Clarence Williams p207*: Ed Allen (cnt); Charlie Irvis (tbn); Arville Harris (clt, ten); Clarence Williams (pno); Leroy Harris (bjo); Floyd Casey (dms); Katherine Henderson (vcl).

- *Rust\*2*: Ed Allen (cnt); Charlie Irvis (tbn); Arville Harris (clt, alt); Clarence Williams (pno); Leroy Harris (bjo); Floyd Casey (dms); Katherine Henderson (vcl).

- *Rust\*3*: Ed Allen -c; Charlie Irvis -tb; Arville Harris -cl -ts; Clarence Williams -p; Leroy Harris -bj; Floyd Casey -d; Katherine Henderson -v.

- *Rust\*4,\*6*: Ed Allen -c; Charlie Irvis -tb; Arville Harris -cl -as or ts; Clarence Williams -p; Leroy Harris -bj; Floyd Casey -d; Katherine Henderson -v..

- *BGR\*2,\*3,\*4*: Ed Allen, cnt; Charlie Irvis, tbn; Arville Harris, clt, ten; Clarence Williams, pno; Leroy Harris, bjo; Floyd Casey, dms; Katherine Henderson, vcl.

#### Discernable differences of takes (from Lord p208):

E-4861: Weak vocal entry „Dance Got 'Em ...“

E-4862: Stronger vocal entry „There's a Dance Got 'Em ...“

<b>002 KATHERINE HENDERSON</b> Clarence Williams and his Orchestra	Long Island City	Sept. 1928
Katherine Henderson – voc; Ed Allen – cnt; Ed Cuffee – tbn; Arville Harris – clt; Clarence Williams - pno		
235-A West End Blues	QRS R-7024,	Frog DGF 48
236-A St. Louis Blues	QRS R-7024,	Frog DGF 48

Everybody seems clear, but there remain some doubts as to the presence of Ed Cuffee on tbn.

#### Notes:

- *Storyville 23*: Ed Allen (cnt); Ed Cuffee (tbn); Arville Harris (clt); Clarence Williams (pno).

- *Lord, Clarence Williams p253*: Ed Allen (cnt); Ed Cuffee (tbn); Arville Harris (clt); Clarence Williams (pno).

- *Rust\*3,\*4,\*6*: Ed Allen -c; Ed Cuffee -tb; Arville Harris -cl; Clarence Williams -p.

- *BGR\*2,\*3,\*4*: Ed Allen, cnt; Ed Cuffee, tbn; Arville Harris, clt; Clarence Williams, pno.

<b>003 KATHERINE HENDERSON</b> Clarence Williams and his Orchestra	Long Island City,	c. Oct. 1928
Katherine Henderson – voc; Joe King Oliver – cnt; Ben Whitted – clt, alt; Ben Waters – ten; Clarence Williams – pno; Cyrus St. Clair - bbs		
256-A Lonesome Lovesick Blues	QRS R-7032,	Frog DGF 48
257-A Have You Felt That Way?	QRS R-7032,	Frog DGF 48
258- What Can You Do Without Me?	QRS R-7054,	Frog DGF 48

The clarinet solo is more blues inflected than Arville Harris' work, so most likely Whitted, who was capable of good blues playing. The tenor is not really prominent and the brass bass might not be St. Clair.

Notes:

- *Storyville 23*: Joe Oliver (cnt); Benny Moten (clt, alt); Ben Waters (ten); Clarence Williams (pno); Cyrus St. Clair (bbs).
- *Lord, Clarence Williams p256*: Joe Oliver (cnt); unknown (clt, alt); Ben Waters (ten); Clarence Williams (pno); Cyrus St. Clair (bbs).
- *Rust\*3*: King Oliver -c; ?Ben Whittet -cl; Arville Harris or Ben Waters -ts; Clarence Williams -p; Cyrus St. Clair -bb.
- *Rust\*4, \*6*: King Oliver -c; ?Ben Whittet -cl; Ben Waters -ts; Clarence Williams -p; Cyrus St. Clair -bb.
- *BGR\*2*: King Oliver, cnt; Benny Moten, clt; Ben Waters, ten; Clarence Williams, pno; Leroy Harris, bjo; Cyrus St. Clair, bbs.
- *BGR\*3, \*4*: King Oliver, c; unknown, cl, as; Ben Waters, ts; Clarence Williams, p; Leroy Harris, bj; Cyrus St. Clair, bb.

004	<b>KATHERINE HENDERSON</b>	Clarence Williams and his Orchestra	Long Island City,	c. Nov. 1928
	Katherine Henderson – voc;			
	Joe King Oliver – cnt; Arville Harris – clt, alt; Ben Waters – ten;			
	Clarence Williams – pno; Cyrus St. Clair - bbs			
273-A	Do It Baby		QRS R-7041,	Frog DGF 49
274-A	Mushy Love		QRS R-7054,	Frog DGF 49
275-	If You Like Me		Pm 12840,	Frog DGF 49
275-A	If You Like Me		QRS R-7041,	Frog DGF 49

The musicians in the listening group recognise pitching problems here. Harris is struggling out of tune on clarinet, this probably caused by an out of tune piano which forces the reedmen to lower their pitch. This may explain the previous suggestion that there is an additional clarinet player on the first title only. The tenor sax might be Waters.

Notes:

- *Storyville 24*: Joe Oliver (cnt); poss Ben Whittet (clt); Albert Socarras (alt); poss Ben Waters (ten); Clarence Williams (pno); Cyrus St. Clair (bbs).
- *Lord, Clarence Williams p261*: Joe Oliver (cnt); poss Ben Whittet (clt); Albert Socarras (alt); poss Ben Waters (ten); Clarence Williams (pno); Cyrus St. Clair (bbs).
- *Rust\*3*: King Oliver -c; ?Ben Whittet -cl; Arville Harris or Ben Waters -ts; Clarence Williams -p; Cyrus St. Clair -bb.
- *Rust\*4, \*6*: King Oliver -c; ?Ben Whittet -cl; Arville Harris, ?Albert Socarras -as; Ben Waters -ts; Clarence Williams -p; Cyrus St. Clair -bb.
- *BGR\*2*: King Oliver, cnt; Benny Moten, clt; Arville Harris, ten; poss unknown, sax (1); Clarence Williams, pno; Cyrus St. Clair, bbs.
- *BGR\*3, \*4*: King Oliver, c; poss Ben Whittet, clt; Albert Socarras, as; poss Ben Waters, ts; Clarence Williams, p; Cyrus St. Clair, bb.

Notable differences of takes (from Lord p262 and KBR):

- 275- : Second chorus, bar 16 (bar 66 of tune): second bar of cornet break: 2 long held notes G - F
- 275-A: Second chorus, bar 16 (bar 66 of tune): second bar of cornet break: sequence of 2 quarter notes a – G, 2 eighth notes G – Gb, 1 quarter note F.

K.-B. Rau  
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