


# BASIE

## EASIN' IT

COUNT BASIE & HIS ORCH.



MUSIC FROM THE PEN OF FRANK FOSTER

RECORDED AT THE MONTELEONE HOTEL, HOUSTON, TEXAS, 1954

REPLATE ENGLAND 4 2014

# BASIE

## EASIN' IT

COUNT BASIE & HIS ORCH.  
MUSIC FROM THE PEN OF FRANK FOSTER

Tenor soloist Frank Foster has been part of the Count Basie band for about ten years now. He has always been important to the success of the band not only as a soloist and an integral part of the whole, but as a writer as well. This album represents Frank Foster, the player, arranger, and composer. As a writer and arranger, Foster has been responsible for such Basie numbers as "Blues In Hoor" Flat" and "Slow Stockings".

Unlike many such albums, Foster had the advantage of writing the material for this album without any set deadline for recording it staring him in the face. Without this undue stress, the freedom enabled him to show his varied moods and allowed the band to give full expression to it. But then Frank's keen knowledge of the band's workings has always enabled him to write so precisely for the band. What more can be said, that has not already been said about the Count Basie band? Every new recording sets a new standard of big band jazz that no other known band can equal. The man and his sound has already become a legend in his own times. There isn't much you can say about legends, not after it's all been said so many times before.

In a way, this album is a fitting tribute to Frank Foster. He has served Basie and the band well. In a way too, this is a fitting tribute by Frank to Basie and the band. They have taken Frank's music and performed it as no other band can, and as no other band ever will. If this sounds in a way like a mutual aid society, well, in a sense that's what Basie and the band is and always has been. It is not simply the effectiveness of the Basie soloists that has made the band what it is. It is sixteen musicians, all conveying the impact of the most powerful force in jazz and guided by "The Kid From Red Bank", Bill Basie, that has made it really great.

Frank Foster is part of it all and though this album is Frank's, it is also, like every Count Basie recording, Basie's and the band's as well.

Produced by Teddy Riley

Side A: CASIN' IT/BROTHERLY SHOVE/BLUES FOR DADDY-O 11:45

Side B: FOUR, FIVE, SIX/WISUNDERSTOOD BLUES/MAMA DEE/IT'S ABOUT THAT TIME 11:45

