

It don't mean a thing

Duke Ellington & Irving Mills
(Arr. Wayne Richmond, 2023)

$\text{♩} = 150$

7

A musical staff in common time (indicated by a 'C') and G major (indicated by a single sharp sign). The staff starts with a quarter note (indicated by a '4' over a dot) followed by a long horizontal bar line extending across the page. The number '7' is positioned above the staff.

8 B⁷ [A] Em Em(maj7) Cm⁷ G⁷/B Em⁶

T. It don't mean a thing if it ain't got that swing.

H. It don't mean a thing if it ain't got that swing.

A. It don't mean a thing if it ain't got that swing.

16 G B⁷ Em Em(maj7) Cm⁷ G^{7/B} Em⁶

T. wah. It don't mean a thing if it got to do is swing.

H. wah. It don't mean a thing if it got to do is swing.

A. wah. It don't mean a thing if it got to do is swing.

M. doo

21 A⁷ Cm/E♭ G⁶/D G

T. doo wah, doo wah. It

H. doo wah, doo wah. It

A. doo wah, doo wah. It

M. doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo It

B Bridge 1

25 Dm⁷ G⁷ C⁶ Clap Em⁷ A⁷ Em⁷ A⁷

T. makes no dif'rence if it's sweet or hot, just give that rhy-thm ev-'ry - thing you've

H. makes no dif'rence if it's sweet or hot, just give that rhy-thm ev-'ry - thing you've

A. makes no dif'rence if it's sweet or hot, just give that rhy-thm ev-'ry - thing you've

M. makes no dif'rence if it's sweet or hot, just give that rhy-thm ev-'ry - thing you've

31 D⁷ B⁷ Em Em/D♯ Em/D Em/C♯ Em⁷/C Em⁷/B Em⁶

T. got. Oh it don't mean a thing if it ain't got that swing.

H. got. Oh it don't mean a thing if it ain't got that swing.

A. got. Oh it don't mean a thing if it ain't got that swing.

M. got. V.S.

37 A⁷ Cm⁷/E[♭] G⁶/D B⁷

T. doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah.
H. doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah.
A. doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah.
M. — doo — doo — doo — doo —

C

41 F#m F#m/E D⁷ C^{♯7} F#m F#m/E D⁷ C^{♯7}

Tpt. — — — — — — — —

D Verse

45 Em Em/D C⁷ B⁷ Em Em/D C⁷ B⁷ Em Em/D

T. What good is mel - o - dy? What good is mu - sic if it ain't pos -
H. What good is mel - o - dy? What good is mu - sic if it ain't pos -
A. What good is mel - o - dy? What good is mu - sic if it ain't pos -
M. What good is mel - o - dy? What good is mu - sic if it ain't pos -

50 C⁷ B⁷ Em Em/D C⁷ B⁷ Em Em/D C⁷ B⁷

T. sess-in' some - thing sweet. It ain't the mel - o - dy.
H. sess-in' some - thing sweet. It ain't the mel - o - dy.
A. sess-in' some - thing sweet. It ain't the mel - o - dy.
M. sess-in' some - thing sweet. It ain't the mel - o - dy.

55 Em Em/D C⁷ B⁷ Em Em/D C⁷ B⁷ F#⁷/C# C⁷

T. — It ain't the mu - sic. There's some-thing else that makes the tune com -

H. — It ain't the mu - sic. There's some-thing else that makes the tune com -

A. — It ain't the mu - sic. There's some-thing else that makes the tune com -

M. — It ain't the mu - sic. There's some-thing else that makes the tune com -

60 B⁷ C#^o D^o D#^o B⁷

T. plete.

H. plete.

A. plete.

M. plete.

E *Instrumental 2*

64 Em Em/D# Em/D Em/C# Em⁷/C Em⁷/B Em⁶
Woh!

68 A⁷ Cm⁷/E♭ G⁶/D B⁷

T. doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah.

H. doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah.

A. doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah.

M. doo doo doo doo

72 Em Em/D# Em/D Em/C# Em⁷/C Em⁷/B Em⁶

Rec.

76 A⁷ Cm⁷/Eb G⁶/D B⁷

T. doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah. It

H. doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah. It

A. doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah. It

M. doo doo doo doo It

F Bridge 2

80 Dm⁷ G⁷ C⁶ Em⁷ A⁷

T. makes no dif'-rence if it's sweet or hot, just give that rhy-thm ev -'ry - thing you've

H. makes no dif'-rence if it's sweet or hot, just give that rhy-thm ev -'ry - thing you've

A. makes no dif'-rence if it's sweet or hot, just give that rhy-thm ev -'ry - thing you've

M. makes no dif'-rence if it's sweet or hot, just give that rhy-thm ev -'ry - thing you've

86 D⁷ B⁷ Em Em(maj7) Em⁷ Em⁶

T. got. Oh it don't mean a thing if it ain't got that swing.

H. got. Oh it don't mean a thing if it ain't got that swing.

A. got. Oh it don't mean a thing if it ain't got that swing.

M. got.

92 A⁷ Cm⁷/E♭ G⁶/D G

T. doo wah, doo wah.

H. doo wah, doo wah.

A. doo wah, doo wah.

M. doo doo doo doo

G Instrumental 3

96 Em Em/D C⁷ B⁷ Woh! Em Em/D C⁷ B⁷

Rec.

100 Em Em/D C⁷ B⁷ Em Em/D C⁷ B⁷

Rec.

104 Em Em/D C⁷ B⁷ Em Em/D C⁷ B⁷ Em Em/D C⁷ B⁷ F#/C C⁷

Rec.

111 C C(sus4) C(omits5) C⁷

T. It's some-thing else__ that makes the tune com - plete. It

H. It's some-thing else__ that makes the tune com - plete. It

A. It's some-thing else__ that makes the tune com - plete. It

M. Bm C♯° D° B⁷ It's some-thing else__ that makes the tune com - plete.

Rec.

119 **H** Fm Fm(maj7) D \flat m⁷ A \flat ⁷/C Fm⁶ B \flat ⁷

T. don't mean a thing if it ain't got that swing. doo wah, doo wah,

H. don't mean a thing if it ain't got that swing. doo wah, doo wah,

A. don't mean a thing if it ain't got that swing. doo wah, doo wah,

M. doo

124 D \flat m⁷/E A \flat ⁶/E \flat A \flat C⁷

T. doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah. It

H. doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah. It

A. doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah. It

M. doo doo doo

127 Fm Fm(maj7) D \flat m⁷ A \flat ⁷/C Fm⁶

T. don't mean a thing all you got to do is sing.

H. don't mean a thing if it ain't got that swing.

A. don't mean a thing if it ain't got that swing.

131

T. $B\flat^7$ D $\flat m/E$ A $\flat^6/E\flat$

H.

A.

M. $D\flat^6$

doo wah, doo
doo wah, doo
doo wah, doo
doo doo doo

I *Bridge 3*

134

T. $A\flat$ E $\flat m^7$ A \flat^7 D \flat^6

H.

A.

M. $D\flat^6$

wah. It makes no diff'-rence if it's sweet or hot;
wah. It makes no diff'-rence if it's sweet or hot;
wah. It makes no diff'-rence if it's sweet or hot;
doo It makes no dif -'rence if it's sweet or hot,

138

T. $Huh!$ F m^7 B \flat^7 F m^7 B \flat^7 E \flat^7

H.

A.

M. $E\flat^7$

Huh! just give that rhy-thm ev - 'ry - thing you got.
Huh! just give that rhy-thm ev - 'ry - thing you got.
Huh! just give that rhy-thm ev - 'ry - thing you got.
just give that rhy-thm ev - 'ry - thing you've got.

142

T. C⁷ Fm Fm/E Fm/E♭ Fm/D Fm⁷/D♭ Fm⁷/C Fm⁶

H.

A.

Oh it don't mean a thing— if it ain't got that swing.

Oh it don't mean a thing— if it ain't got that swing.

Oh it don't mean a thing— if it ain't got that swing.

147

T. B♭⁷ D♭m⁷/E A♭⁶/E♭ C⁷

H.

A.

— doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah.

— doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah.

— doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah.

M.

doo doo doo doo

151

T. B♭⁷ D♭m⁷/E A♭⁶/E♭ C⁷

H.

A.

doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah.

doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah.

doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah.

M.

doo doo doo doo

J Coda

155

T. $B\flat^7$ B° C°

H.

A.

M.

doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo
doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo
doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo
doo

158

T. D° E $D\flat$ $A\flat$

H.

A.

M.

wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wha, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah!
wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wha, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah!
wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wha, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah, doo wah!
doo doo doo wah!