

ODEON-JAZZ-BAND 1921

Odeon-Jazz-Band: Band musicians unknown. Likely instrumentation: Valve cornet (piston). Valve trombone. Poss. C-mel saxophone. Flute/piccolo. Violin. Piano. Banjo (played single string only). Brass bass. Woodblocks.

Copenhagen, fall, 1921

Kpo 1093 PEGGY
Kpo 1095 WHISPERING

Odeon A 149690, 311597
Odeon A 149690, 311598

NOTE: This group is supposed to be Danish since the matrix prefixes indicate a Copenhagen recording location (during 1921, the Lindstroem Company totally recorded Matrix numbers Kpo 1019-1148 in Copenhagen). Matrix number hand written, not stamped, in wax. Acoustic recording, the Danish original release using the light blue Odeon label, while the reprint uses the yellow/green Odeon label. The above sides are showing traces of more advanced music than usually performed at that time in the restaurants/salons, and merit inclusion just for the fact that "Whispering" is having a banjo single string lead, while possibly saxophone and definitively woodblocks are also heard. There are, however, no solos - it is ensemble all the way.

The gap in matrix numbers indicates that there may be further recordings by this group (not yet located).



Actual Danish bandleaders that might possibly have been involved with this recording are hard to point out. Marius Hansen (his orchestra included banjos already from 1918-19) and Jens Warny were both under contract to HMV (and the usual style of Marius Hansen's Wivel Orchestra is not apparent here). Other "progressive" bandleaders were Carl Johan Meinung and Henrik Clausen, but Meinung probably never recorded, and Clausen did not record until early 1930'ties.

A possible saxophonist could hardly be anybody else than Knud Jensen or Marno Sørensen (although Johannes Lund and Charles Høegh might also qualify as saxophonists at this time).

The below mentioned banjo players/Union Members were known to be playing at the time of recording: Carl Bigum (UM 27 October 1921), Hjalmar Bramsholm (UM 22 July 1921), Christian Hansen (UM 2 December 1921), and Axel Petersen (UM 1 November 1917). Further Valdemar Eiberg, Jonas Hansen, Kristian Jensen, John Lange, Karl Lington, Hans Mortensen, "Tykke"-Einer Nielsen, Robert Radford, Berthel Skjoldborg, and "Stamme" Svensson were active back then, some as professionals, others still as (excellent) amateurs. Most of these musicians were interviewed later on, but none of them ever mentioned taking part in such a recording.