

IT DON'T MEAN A THING

ELLINGTON/IRVING MILLS 1932

ARR.: M. RUDOLPH © 2011

SWING

S (Soprano)
M (Trumpet)
A (Alto)
T (Tenor)
B (Bass)

1 2 3 4 5 6
7 8 9 10
11 12 13 14 15

p doo- wah doo- wah doo- wah doo- wah doo- wah doo- wah
p doo- wah doo- wah doo- wah doo- wah doo- wah doo- wah
p doo- wah doo- wah doo- wah doo- wah doo- wah doo- wah
p doo- wah doo- wah doo- wah doo- wah doo- wah doo- wah

What good is me- lo- dy?
What good is mu- sic? It ain't po- ses- sin'
It ain't the me- lo- dy, It ain't the
some- thing sweet.

- 2 IT DON'T MEAN A THING -

16 17 18 19 20

S mu- sic there's some- thing else that makes a tune com- lete:

M

A doo- wah doo- wah doo- wah tune com- lete: It

T doo- wah doo- wah doo- wah tune com- lete: Ga doom toom

B doo- wah doo- wah doo- wah tune com- lete: Ga doom toom

21 22 23 24 25 26

S doo- wah

M Doo- wah

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

T doo- wah

B doom doom etc

27 28 29 30 31

S doo- wah

M Doo- wah doo- wah It don't mean a thing all you got- ta do is

A doo- wah

T doo- wah

B Doo- wah doo- wah

32 33 34 35 36

S Doo- wah doo- wah

M Doo- wah doo- wah doo- wah It

A swing. Doo- wah Doo- wah doo- wah It

T Doo- wah doo- wah doo- wah It

B Doo- wah doo- wah doo- wah It

- 3 IT DON'T MEAN A THING -

37 38 39 40 41

cresc

S We don't care if it's sweet or hot. Just give that rhy- thm

M makes no dif- ference if it's sweet or hot. Just give that rhy- thm

A makes no dif- ference if it's sweet or hot. Just give that rhy- thm

T makes no dif- ference if it's sweet or hot. Just give that rhy- thm

B makes no dif- ference if it's sweet or hot. Just give that rhy- thm

42 43 44 45 46 47

S give it e- v'ry- thing you've got *p* It don't mean a thing all you got- ta do is

M e- very- thing you've got. *f* Oh,

A e- very- thing you've got. *f* Oh,

T e- very- thing you've got. *f* Oh,

B e- very- thing you've got. *f* Oh,

♩ LAST TIME TO CODA

48 49 50 51

S swing. doo- wah doo-

M doo- wah doo- wah doo-

A doo- wah doo- wah doo-

T doo- wah doo- wah doo-

B 2nd time: doo- wah doo- wah doo-

52 53 54 55

S wah don't mean a thing! swing!

M wah don't mean a thing! swing!

A wah don't mean a thing! swing!

T wah don't mean a thing! swing!

B wah Gim- mie that me- lo- dy in swin gim- mie that

Don't mean a thing gim- mie that me- lo- dy in swin gim- mie that

- 4 IT DON'T MEAN A THING -

56 57 58 59 60

S
M
A
T
B

swing!
swing!
swing!

mu- sic!
mu- sic too in swing toom doom toom doom toom doom toom doom toom doom toom doom toom

don't mean a thing
don't mean a thing
a- ny- thing to make it sweet. don't mean a thing

61 62 63 64

S
M
A
T
B

I got to have mu- sic I got -to have me- lo- dy

swing!
swing!
swing!

doom got to have mu- sic all in swing I want the me- lo- dy in swing

65 66 67 68 69 *cresc*

S
M
A
T
B

just as long as it's com- plete. *p* Me- lo- dy
just as long as it's com- plete. *p* Me- lo- dy
just as long as it's com- plete. *p*
just as long as it's com- plete. *p*

toom doom toom doom toom doom toom doom toom etc *p*

70 71 72 73

S
M
A
T
B

don't mean a thing *f* doo- ba dah bm dap
don't mean a thing *f* doo- ba dah bm dap
Me- lo- dy don't mean a thing. *f* doo- ba dah bm dap
Me- lo- dy don't mean a thing. *f* doo- ba dah bm dap

f

- 5 IT DON'T MEAN A THING -

74 *cresc*

S doo- ba dah bm dap doo- ba dah bm dap don't mean a thing rhy- thm

M doo- ba dah bm dap doo- ba dah bm dap don't mean a thing rhy- thm

A doo- ba dah bm dap doo- ba dah bm dap don't mean a thing rhy- thm

T doo- ba dah bm dap doo- ba dah bm dap bow! don't mean a thing rhy- thm

B doo- ba dah bm dap doo- ba dah bm dap rhy- thm

78

S mu- sic do it f it don't mean a thing if it does not

M mu- sic do it f it don't mean a thing if it does not

A mu- sic do it f it don't mean a thing if it does not

T mu- sic do it f it don't mean a thing if it does not

B mu- sic do it f it don't mean a thing if it does not

f

82

S has the swing in it doo dap bab doo- dab bab be- lieve us! *p* doob da- bm dab da bm

M has the swing in it doo dap bab doo- dab bab be- lieve us! *p* doob da- bm dab da bm

A has the swing in it doo dap bab doo- dab bab be- lieve us! *p* doob da- bm dab da bm

T has the swing in it doo dap bab doo- dab bab be- lieve us! *p* doob da- bm dab da bm

B has the swing in it doo dap bab doo- dab bab be- lieve us! *mf* No it

doo dap bab doo- dab bab be- lieve us! *mf* No it

86

S doo- bm dap doo- bm dap doob da bm doo- bm dap doob- bm dap doo bm dap

M doo- bm dap doo- bm dap doob da bm doo- bm dap doob- bm dap doo bm dap

A doo- bm dap doo- bm dap doob da bm doo- bm dap doob- bm dap doo bm dap

T doo- bm dap doo- bm dap doob da bm doo- bm dap doob- bm dap doo bm dap

B aint the me- lo- dy it aint the chords it ain't the mu- sic No it ain't

aint the me- lo- dy it aint the chords it ain't the mu- sic No it ain't

- 6 IT DON'T MEAN A THING -

89 90 91 92

S doob da- bm dab da bm doo- bm dap doo- bm dap Let's swing it! Let's sing it!

M doob da- bm dab da bm doo- bm dap doo- bm dap Let's swing it! Let's sing it!

A doob da- bm dab da bm doo- bm dap doo- bm dap Let's swing it! Let's sing it!

T doob da- bm dab da bm doo- bm dap doo- bm dap Let's swing it! Let's sing it!

B It's the rhy- thm a- lone 'cause it swings gliss yeah!

It's the rhy- thm a- lone 'cause it swings yeah!

93 94 95 96 97

S *ff* it don't mean a thing *f* no it's

M *ff* it don't mean a thing *f* no it's

A *ff* it don't mean a thing *f* no it's

T *ff* it don't mean a thing *f* no it's

B *ff* it don't mean a thing *f* no it's

ff It don't mean a thing it does n't mean a

98 99 100 101

S not the me- lo- dy it is rhy- thm! *f* Don't mean a thing!

M not the me- lo- dy it is rhy- thm! *f* Don't mean a thing! *p* you just gim- mie that

A not the me- lo- dy it is rhy- thm! *f* Don't mean a thing! *p* you just gim- mie that

T not the me- lo- dy it is rhy- thm! *f* Don't mean a thing! *p* you just gim- mie that

B not the me- lo- dy it is rhy- thm! *f* Don't mean a thing! *p* you just gim- mie that

thing if it does not have rhy- thm! Don't mean a thing!

102 103 104 105

S *f* Don't mean a thing Don't mean a thing!

M rhy- thm you just gim- mie that me- lo- dy E- very

A rhy- thm you just gim- mie that me- lo- dy E- very

T rhy- thm you just gim- mie that me- lo- dy E- very

B rhy- thm you just gim- mie that me- lo- dy E- very

f Don't mean a thing Don't mean a thing!

- 7 IT DON'T MEAN A THING -

106 107 108 109

S Don't mean a thing!

M thing that makes a tune all complete you just gim-mie that

A thing that makes a tune all complete you just gim-mie that

T thing that makes a tune all complete you just gim-mie that

B thing that makes a tune all complete you just gim-mie that

Don't mean a thing!

110 111 112 113

S Don't mean a thing

M rhy- thm you just gim-mie that me- lo- dy swing is

A rhy- thm you just gim-mie that me- lo- dy swing is

T rhy- thm you just gim-mie that me- lo- dy swing is

B rhy- thm you just gim-mie that me- lo- dy swing is

Don't mean a thing Don't mean a thing

114 115 116 117

S It's all we e- ver need.

M all that we all e- ver need. *p* me- lo- dy and har- mo- ny and

A all that we all e- ver need. *p* me- lo- dy and har- mo- ny and

T all that we all e- ver need. *p* me- lo- dy and har- mo- ny and

B all that we all e- ver need. *p* me- lo- dy and har- mo- ny and

It's all we e- ver need.

118 119 120

S yeah peo- ple talk and yet it does- n't mean a thing

M sym- pho- ny and rhap- so- dy is no- thing.

A sym- pho- ny and rhap- so- dy is no- thing.

T sym- pho- ny and rhap- so- dy is no- thing.

B sym- pho- ny and rhap- so- dy is no- thing.

yeah peo- ple talk and yet it does- n't mean a thing

- 8 IT DON'T MEAN A THING -

121 122 123 124

S means no- thing no- thing at all, no! It's rhy- thm rhy- thm a- lone it is.

M It's the rhy- thm rhy- thm a- lone it is.

A It's the rhy- thm it is.

T It's the rhy- thm it is.

B It's the rhy- thm it is.

125 126 127

S ff mu- sic? rhy- thm? read it? Swing it?

M ff mu- sic? rhy- thm? read it? Swing it?

A ff mu- sic? rhy- thm? read it? Swing it?

T ff mu- sic? rhy- thm? read it? Swing it?

B ff mu- sic? rhy- thm? read it? Swing it?

ff No! Yeah! No! Yeah!

128 129 130 131 132 D.S.

S Sing it? Let's move it! Let's groove it Let's sing it in swing!

M Sing it? Let's move it! Let's groove it Let's sing it in swing!

A Sing it? Let's move it! Let's groove it Let's sing it in swing!

T Sing it? mu- sic, no it's swing

B Sing it? it ain't the mu- sic, no it's swing

CODA

133 134 135 136

S doo- wah doo- wah doo- wah doo- wah doo- wah doo- wah doo- wah doo- wah.

M doo- wah 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 doo- wah.

T doo- wah doo- wah doo- wah doo- wah doo- wah doo- wah doo- wah doo- wah.

B doo- wah doo- wah doo- wah doo- wah doo- wah doo- wah doo- wah doo- wah.