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Disco: An Encyclopedic Guide To The Cover Art Of Disco Records



Synopsis

This large-format deluxe hardback book features the amazing artwork of thousands of disco record cover designs from the 1970s up to the mid-1980s. Together, the record cover designs gathered here create a unique visual history of disco culture. Featuring more than 2,000 album cover designs (including hundreds of full-size covers) as well as over 700 12-inch sleeves, this book is truly an encyclopedic document of disco music and the industry and culture attending it. In addition to the visual documents from the era, the book includes interviews with a number of important disco figures such as Mel Cheren (West End Records), Henry Stone (TK Records), Ken Cayre (Salsoul), Marvin Schlachter (Prelude) and Tom Moulton, as well as histories, biographies and discographies of all the major disco record companies, plus sections on roller disco sleeves, disco instruction albums, 12-inch sleeves and a scrapbook of disco ads. Among the many musicians featured here are Bohannon, James Brown, Jocelyn Brown, Cerrone, Dennis Coffey, Donna Summer, Chic, Fatback Band, Gino Soccio, Giorgio Moroder, Gloria Gaynor, Grace Jones, Isaac Hayes, Kool and the Gang, DC LaRue, Loleatta Holloway, MFSB, Ohio Players, Salsoul Orchestra and The Trammps. This is the latest volume in Soul Jazz's deluxe series of books featuring full-size reproductions of record cover art designs. It is compiled and edited by Disco Patrick and Patrick Vogt, editors of the book *Disco Patrick Presents: The Bootleg Guide to Disco Acetates, Funk, Rap and Disco Medleys*.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This heavy book of album covers weighs in at just shy of seven pounds! Inside are over 2,000 color reproductions of albums plus another 700 12-inch singles covers. And these all fit onto 300 pages – plus another 60 of text – short essays or interviews about some of the labels. Yes, at least – the pages have as many as 16 covers displayed on a page, but I can't imagine the size, weight and cost if the authors printed all the covers full size. (Another option, of course, would be to include a CD-ROM in back with images of all the covers so you could enlarge them on your PC.). This is one heck of a collection. The front covers – and in a few cases, the back covers are included – are arranged by Album catalog number (which incidentally are referred to as Matrix Numbers – Matrix numbers are used to identify the specific take and scratched into the record just outside the label). That number and the year of release are shown for every label but titles are listed only for the covers shown full size. There are some nice examples of gatefold covers which are printed across two pages. I'm not an expert on the Disco field – though there are obviously some in my collection – so I'm sure some titles are missing here, but my guess is not many. I was surprised to even see four or five pages of Disco records on the folk/jazz Vanguard label. I see that a few other reviewers (purists) have noted that there are some images with a cut-out corner removed or still in their shrink wrap but I don't remember seeing any of those in the full-size images. They are nearly all in the small 3x3 inch images and, honestly, they aren't large enough to worry about. But then, I'm not a purist.

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