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The Cover Art Of Blue Note Records: The Collection



Synopsis

With over 400 of the best covers in the record label's history, *The Cover Art of Blue Note Records* is an essential collection for every jazz fan. This new edition gathers the entirety of the two original volumes published nearly two decades ago; every cover, essay, and photo is included. Record art for such iconic musicians as Herbie Hancock, Thelonious Monk, Miles Davis, John Coltrane, Sonny Rollins, and Art Blakey make this anthology an evocative piece of jazz history.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Graham Marsh is an art director, illustrator and writer of many groundbreaking books including *The Cover Art of Blue Note Records Volumes 1 and 2*, *East Coasting* and *California Cool* all published by Collins & Brown. Glyn Callingham is a walking encyclopedia on jazz of the 50s and 60s and runs the legendary Ray's Jazz Shop in London. He is the co-author of the books above and contributes to several jazz magazines.

This is a must for anyone who loves the stunning and historical cover art of one of jazz' most legendary labels, Blue Note. There are literally hundreds of covers from some of the most acclaimed albums Blue Note ever released, and if you're anything like me you'll spend hours just flicking through it and feasting your eyes on the work of seminal designer Reid Miles, Blue Note stalwart and budding photographer Francis Wolff, and the many other famous or less well-known figures who played a part in creating the label's unique visual legacy, which is arguably just as important as its musical one. The beautiful full-colour photos of the covers range from 8.5" square, full-page shots,

down to 3.25" squares arranged four to a page. Each album cover has its title and original catalogue number alongside, as well as the artist's name, the recording or release date, and the names of the cover designers or cover photographers. The covers are often arranged to highlight certain themes or styles that popped up over the course of the label's long history. There are some short but informative essays at the beginning of the book on the label's founding, its major achievements and players, as well as its continuing influence today, written by the authors as well as those who were along on the ride such as Alfred Lion's wife, Ruth. There are a couple of small typos in the text, as on page 7 where it says Blue Note was founded in 1959, but in general they are very well written and lots of fun to read. At the end of the book there are also some rare and stunning black and white pictures (naturally!) of some of the artists who made Blue Note so famous. This is a book all jazz and cover art lovers will treasure forever.

This book contains over 400 Blue Note album covers from the late 40's through the early 70's. The graphic design work is iconic, with the sweet spot being Reid Miles's tenure as chief graphic designer from 1956 to the mid 60's. These covers are especially important in an era when albums are distributed piecemeal and digitally, without cover art or liner notes. Much of the Blue Note catalog has passed into the public domain in the last few years, which has enabled the recent release of incredibly inexpensive multi-CD sets of "Eight Classic Albums" by Real Gone Jazz and other other labels. Since these CD sets are very bare-bones in their packaging and presentation, it's great to be able to view the original album covers. For someone like myself, who bought many of these albums when they came out, the book generates a flood of memories. For younger folks who may be new to the music, the book evokes the time and culture of jazz in the 50's and 60's and amply displays the true definition of "cool".

Such a great compilation of these classic covers. Light on text, heavy on graphics showing the distinctive Blue Note style. A wonderful book for those of us that don't own the original vinyl records and dust jackets...

This was a gift for my son who is a big fan of Blue Note records. I knew I had made a good purchase when he opened it and said, "This may have been a mistake!" He pored over the pages, pointing out the albums he had, the ones he wanted, and the ones he had been unaware of. This is a must for anyone that is a jazz fan!

book arrived perfectly.

It's a great book

It's the small size I don't like it !

Great book!!! Still have many albums included in this book!! Great reference!!!

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