

CURRENT BIBLIOGRAPHY

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This regular feature of the ARSC Journal contains a selective listing of recent English-language articles dealing with historical record artists and other aspects of recording history. We hope to help you locate the important research that is scattered in small, often unfamiliar publications. Please subscribe to or communicate with these publications when you see something of interest. One of our association's major goals is to encourage research and better communication between researchers, and this can only be accomplished through your involvement. If you do write to one of these journals or authors, please mention ARSC and "Current Bibliography."

To be included here an article must be reasonably original, and deal with recording history--not musicological, sociological, or current collecting subjects (such as LP reviews, record prices, latest artists, etc.). I always have some problems determining what is current and what is "history," especially in the rock field, but, as a rough rule of thumb, if the artist's story doesn't go back at least ten years it's not historical yet! Sorry, Culture Club.

This column supplements the Bibliography of Discographies in that many non-discographical articles are not included here, and of course CB is considerably more current (although if the delays in Journal publication get any longer this may become "Historical Bibliography"!) Most of the issues listed here should still be available from the publishers. "W/D" indicates that the article included a discography, although this is often no more than a simple list of releases by catalog number.

Issues covered are those received between August 1983-March 1984.

What's New?

After nearly ten years of publication, Robert A. Hill's Kastlemusick unfortunately ceased operations with the October 1983 issue. Back issues are still available, at least to 1977 when the original sales sheet was expanded to include articles and discographies. Assorted books and copies of the 1982-83 Kastlemusick Collector's Directory are also being sold at reduced prices.

Record Spinner, on the other hand, has folded after a run of exactly one issue. This rock "alternative" to Goldmine certainly had big ambitions, mailing out 60,000 free copies of its first issue and setting an initial goal of 6,000 paid subscriptions. When it got less than 1,000, publisher Alan Light declared bankruptcy, claiming losses of approximately \$50,000. Subscribers got their money back, but not all advertisers did. I don't know where you can write for a copy of its first/last issue, but there ought to be plenty of them around!

Starting with more sensible goals, R.P.M. (Record Profile Magazine) has done much better, and is now up to issue #4. Founded by disaffected Goldmine staffers (the editor is Dennis Loren), R.P.M. boasts some first-rate writers on historical rock and rhythm & blues subjects. It is well worth obtaining if you are interested in this field. Another new publication with occasional articles of interest is Pulse, published as a give-away (although subscriptions are available) by the Tower Records chain of stores. Much of its material is on current artists and LP's that Tower is selling; however, producer Bob Thiele's reminiscences about jazz and popular artists he worked with and a few other articles are worth the (free) price of admission. Pulse's "discographies," though, are a joke. They apparently only include LP's that Tower carries, for example, a discography of Johnny Otis begins in 1970! It's one more indication that the word "discography" may soon become meaningless in practical usage. (We've had bio-discographies, auto-discographies, selective discographies, and discographies that contain practically no useful information at all. Mike Biel should do an article on this).

Over at Goldmine, editor Jeff Tamarkin is out, but a new team of editors appointed by the new owners (the Krause Publications complex) has promised to maintain the magazine's high quality. So far they have, with very important research in the rock field--and occasionally other areas--continuing to appear. Goldmine has expressed interest in expanding its coverage into the pre-LP field (78's), as well as into the country, jazz, and classical fields. To that end, John Lomax has been appointed country editor, and Stephen Stroff classical & jazz editor. Goldmine's first venture into the 78-rpm field was a little rough--Cub Coda, a rock singer/writer with a singularly "cool" style, produced a well-meaning but rather warped article on how to play old "rekkids" (buy an old Victrola, he says). But we wish them well.

Other notes: JEMF Quarterly included in its Spring 1983 issue a "Hot 100" of popular music periodicals most useful to librarians, researchers and collectors. Magazines were grouped rather than ranked; The ARSC Journal made the list, but not in the "top 40" (sic).

The only journals in the authors' highly subjective "top 10" that deal with historical subjects, and are still being published, were Goldmine, Popular Music and Society and Trouser Press. The focus of most of the magazines listed was popular, country, or jazz.

Finally, the importance, and sometimes futility, of preserving our research is nowhere better illustrated than in an article published recently in The Hillandale News. The author, George Taylor, had mentioned in a 1980 issue that he wanted to compile a matrix dating chart for acoustic Columbia, but was "defeated" by its complexity. So, like a good researcher, I wrote to tell him that in 1975 I had compiled a detailed study on just that subject, based on information in the Columbia records archives, and that it had been published in Record Research; I included issue dates, and even the address where he could get copies. Two years later what should turn up in Hillandale News but six pages of "research" by Mr. Taylor, in which he mentions his earlier question, says an (anonymous) correspondent had told him there was existing research on the subject, but that he hadn't bothered to read it. Instead he wrote his own, managing to reinvent the wheel--this time with some square edges, since not nearly as much information was available to him. His article is full of totally unneeded wrong dates and question marks. How much better it would have been for his readers if he had added to what was known, rather than ignored it! At the end he asks for help from readers. What for?

In the next issue I hope to have a complete listing of articles of interest published by In The Groove, the newsletter of the Michigan Antique Phonograph Society. The society has kindly supplied a back set of its issues (1976-date) for this purpose. My thanks also to Larry Holdridge, who assisted this time with citations for this column.

Publications Listed:

American Music, University of Illinois Press, Box 5081, Station A, Champaign, IL 61820

Antique Phonograph Monthly, 502 East 17th St., Brooklyn, NY 11226

Aware, Box 242, Gravesend Station, Brooklyn, NY 11223

Collectors News, Box 156, Grundy Center, IA 50638

Goldmine, 700 East State St., Iola, WI 54990

Gunn Report, Bramble Hall Lane, Daws Heath, Hadleigh, Essex SS7 2XG, England

Hillandale News, c.o Christopher Proudfoot, The Old Rectory, Fawkham, Dartford, Kent, DA3, 8LX, England

Hobbies, 1006 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60605

In The Groove, Michigan Antique Phonograph Society, 2609 Devonshire, Lansing, MI 48910

JEMF Quarterly, Folklore & Mythology Center, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA 90024

Journal of Country Music, Country Music Foundation, 4 Music Square East, Nashville, TN 37203

Kastlemusick, 901 Washington St., Wilmington, DE 19801 (defunct)

Le Grand Baton (Journal of the Sir Thomas Beecham Society), 664 So. Irena Ave., Redondo Beach, CA 90277

Memory Lane, 40 Merryfield Approach, Leigh on Sea, Essex SS9 4HJ, England

New Amberola Graphic, 37 Caledonia St., St. Johnsbury, VT 05819

Nostalgia World, Box 231, North Haven, CT 06473

Pulse, c/o Tower Records, 900 Enterprise Dr., Sacramento, CA 95825

Record Collector, 503 Norwich Rd., Ipswich, Suffolk IP1 6JT, England

Record Finder, Box 1047, Glen Allen, VA 23060

Record Profile Magazine (R.P.M.), 24361 Greenfield, Suite 201, Southfield, MI 48075

Record Research, 65 Grand Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11205

Record Review, Box 91878, Los Angeles, CA 90009

Record Spinner, Moline, IL (defunct, no forwarding address)

Recorded Sound, BIRS, 29 Exhibition Road, London SW 7, England

Shellac Stack, Box 201, Thomaston, ME 04861

Sounds Vintage, c/o Debbie Edginton, Bartham Press, Empress Rd.,
Luton, Bedfordshire LU3 2RE England

Soundtrack, Box 3895, Springfield, MA 01101

Storyville, 66 Fairview Drive, Chigwell, Essex, IG7 6HS, England

Talking Machine Review, 19 Glendale Road, Bournemouth, BH6 4JA,
England

Vintage Light Music, 4 Harvest Bank Road, West Wickham, Kent, England

Whiskey, Women and ..., 39 Pine Avenue, Haverhill, MA 01830

Popular, General

Individuals:

Aldrich, Ronnie, Orchestra by Chris Hayes, Sounds Vintage Sep/Oct
1983

Ashton Hippodrome Orchestra, by Michael J. Lee, Vintage Light Music
#37

BBC Dance Orchestra (1936), by Peter Wallace, Memory Lane Autumn 1983
BBC Wireless Military Band, by Alan Hindmarch, W/D, Vintage Light
Music #36

Bettini, Gianni, by Robert Feinstein is about the phonograph
inventor's last invention--two games!, Antique Phonograph
Monthly VII No. 7

Brent, Gloria, by Tony Clarke, Memory Lane, Autumn 1983

Cheech & Chong, by James Porter, W/D (partial), Goldmine Dec 1983

Corona Dance Orchestra (on UK Regal), by Jim Hayes, W/D. Gunn Report
Nos. 90, 91

DeGroot, by Henry Coates, Vintage Light Music #37

Dinning Sisters, The, by Rommie Matthews, W/D, Record Finder Aug 1983

Edison Concert Orchestra, by D.E. Ferrara, W/D, New Amberola Graphic
Winter 1984

Gonella, Bruts, by Chris Hayes, Memory Lane Autumn 1983

Gonella, Nat, by Ron Brown, Memory Lane Summer 1983

Handy, W.C., by Bob Tremain, R.P.M. Dec 1983/Jan 1984

Harvey, Jonathan (UK composer), discog. by Eric Hughes & Timothy Day,
Recorded Sound Jul 1983

Henderson, Chick, by Chris Hayes, Memory Lane Summer 1983

Hylton, Jack, by Jeffrey Green, Memory Lane Summer 1983

Ink Spots, The (movies), by George Moonoogian, Whiskey, Women and...
#11

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 Lawrence, Lee, by Chris Hayes, Memory Lane Summer 1983
 London, Julie, by Charles H. Bogart, W/D, Goldmine Jan 1984
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 Snodgrass, Harry, by Martin Bryan, reveals that the little-known
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Graphic Winter 1984
 Stone, Eddie, by Bob Netzer, Collectors News Jan 1984
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 Sep/Oct, Nov/Dec 1983

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 Tim Fabrizio, Hillandale News Aug 1983
 "Daily Mail Mystery Record" (UK, 1932), more by Doug Wilkins,
Gunn Report #89
 Edison company's artist publicity files from the 1920s discussed
 by Ron Dethlefsen, New Amberola Graphic Winter 1984
 "H-3 Chrono-Matrix File", by Harold H. Hartel, is a multi-label
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 Sep, Dec 1983

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Periodicals: Early Gramophone Periodicals in Russia, by Ranier E. Lotz, adds to Pekka Gronow's Feb 1983 TMR article on this subject, Talking Machine Review Nov 1983

Political Recording: "Foreign Missions", by William Howard Taft (1908), transcribed by John S. Dales, New Amberola Graphic Autumn 1983

Record and Song Popularity Charts, History Of, by Gary Levine, includes an interesting historical survey covering the early 1900s to recent days, Goldmine Mar 2, 1984

"Songs with Titles Taken From Books" (in acoustic era), by Jim Walsh, Hobbies Aug, Sep, Oct 1983

"Sweet Lorraine" (song): recordings, by Tony Maramarco, Record Finder Aug 1983

Labels, Companies

Arhoolie (LPs) by Lee Hildebrand, W/D, R.P.M. Aug, Sep 1983

Bell (1920s) by Steven C. Barr, with label illus. and dating guide, New Amberola Graphic Autumn 1983

Black Patti (1920s), discog. by Henry Henriksen, cont., Record Research Sep 1983

Columbia (UK) by Frank James, discusses 1930s LPs, Hillandale News Aug 1983

Columbia (brown wax cylinders, 1900), by George Paul, contains discographical notes, New Amberola Graphic Summer 1983

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Decca "Music While You Work" label (UK, 1940s), discog. by Jim Hayes, Vintage Light Music Nos. 36, 37

Domino (1920s), brief description by Carl Kendziora, Record Research Dec 1983

Durium (UK, 1930s), by Barry Pliskin, Gunn Report #91

Eclipse (UK) dance bends discussed by Chester Mattin, Memory Lane Autumn 1983

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 Robertson, cont., Record Research Sep, Dec 1983
 Gramophone Co. (UK) by Alan Kelly, is a matrix dating chart
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 Aug 1983
 Gramophone Co. (UK) by Leonard Petts, discusses the company's
 European field recording tour of 1899, Hillandale News Aug 1983
 HMV (UK) by Brian Rust, discusses history of co., cont., Gunn Report
 Nos. 89, 90
 Hi (1960s), discog. by Ken Clee, R.P.M. Dec 1983/Jan 1984
 Hi-Q (1950s), discog. by Ron Murphy, R.P.M. Sep 1983
 Liberty Music Shop (1930s), discog. by Jack Raymond, Record Research
 Sep, Dec 1983
 Little Wonder (1910s), discog. by George Blacker, cont., Record
Research Sep, Dec 1983
 Lyric (UK, 1910s), by Norman Stevens, Sounds Vintage May/June 1983
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Graphic Autumn 1983
 Pathé (UK, early 1900s), by Brian Rust, Sounds Vintage Jul/Aug 1983
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 Queen (1940s), by Bill Daniels, Whiskey, Women and ... #11
 Sky (LP discog.), by W.T. Rahn, R.P.M. Aug, Sep 1983
 Sue (1950s), discog. by Kurt Mohn & Pierre Daguerre, cont.,
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 Vulcan (1920s), brief description by Carl Kendziora, Record Research
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 Zonophone (1899-1912), by George Paul, pictures and describes label
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 European Label Directory (1920s) by Derek Hamilton-Smith gives
 brief details on various labels, in alphabetical order,
Sounds Vintage Jul/Aug, Sep/Oct, Nov/Dec 1983
 Stereo 45's issued by various early labels, by Mike Callahan,
 W/D, Goldmine Aug 1983

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- Cleaning 78's, by Cub Coda, deals mostly with his own homemade methods, Goldmine Mar 16, 1984
- Proper Use of Cylinder Machines, Hints for the collector, by "Alva," Hillandale News Aug 1983
- Protecting, Storing, Transporting and Insuring Your Record Collection by Jon McAuliffe deals primarily with microgroove recordings, Goldmine Aug 1983
- Record Cleaners, Flattening Warped Records (microgroove), by Dan Fries, Goldmine Sep 1983
- Storage Cabinet for LP's & 45's, by James N. Price, Goldmine Oct 1983

Phonographs

- Dominion Autophone by Tom Stephenson, Hillandale News Dec 1983
- Edison Talking Doll (1889) by Sybill McFadden appears in the Doll department of Hobbies Aug 1983

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- Needles and needle tins discussed by Dennis Back, Collectors News Nov 1983
- Non-Magnetic Sound Recording on Tape by F.A. Jansen is a history primarily concerned with optical systems, Hillandale News Aug 1983
- Triangular Needle Tins discussed by Ruth Lambert, Sounds Vintage Nov/Dec 1983

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- Barrientos, Maria, by Clifford Williams, W/D, Record Collector Vol 28 No. 3&4
- Bettini Cylinders: New Discoveries, by William J. Collins, W/D, Record Collector Vol 28 No. 9&10
- Heinrich, Julia, by D.E. Ferrara, W/D (Edison), New Amberola Graphic Summer 1983
- Lambert, Constant, by Kenneth DeKay & Nathan E. Brown, W/D, Le Grand Baton #54
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"Lucrezia Borgia" by John B. Richards discusses early recorded performances, Record Collector Vol 28 No. 5&6
 Pasero, Tancredi, by Norman Linnell, Record Collector Vol 28 No. 5&6
 Raynor, Sidney, by Michael F. Bott, W/D, Record Collector Vol 28 No. 1&2
 Reizen, Mark, by Normal Linnell, W/D, Record Collector Vol 28 No. 1&2
 Richter, Sviatoslav, discog. by Falk Schwartz & John Berre, W/D, Recorded Sound Jul 1983
 Scotti, Antonio, by Will Hogarth, W/D, Record Collector Vol 28 No. 9&10
 Stravinsky, Igor, as a conductor, by Nathan E. Brown, W/D, Le Grand Baton #53
 Stravinsky, Igor, by Don Vroon & John Landis, discusses LP's, Le Grand Baton #53
 Zeppilli, Alice, by Michael F. Bott, W/D, Record Collector Vol 28 No. 3&4

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Bluegrass Music: a detailed history by Todd Everett continues
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Ahola, Sylvester, discog. by Brian Rust, cont., Shellac Stack #61
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Bernhardt, Clyde, discog. by David Griffiths, cont., Record
Research Sep 1983
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Cohn, Zinky (in UK), by Howard Rye, Storyville #108
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Johnson, James C., by Frank Driggs, Whiskey, Women and ... #11
Johnson, Plas, by Peter Smart, W/D, Goldmine Oct 1983
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Mills Blue Rhythm Band by Frank Dutton et al, W/D, Storyville
Nos. 108, 109
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Tatum, Art (in UK), by Howard Rye, Storyville #108
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Venuti, Joe, by Scott Yanow, Record Review Dec 1983
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Waters, Muddy, by Bob Tremain, W/D (singles), R.P.M. Aug 1983
West, Cedric, by Peter Darke & Bill White, W/D, Storyville #109
Whitby, Doc, by Harold S. Kaye, Storyville #110
Young, Lester & Coleman Hawkins, reminiscences by producer
Bob Thiele, Pulse Christmas 1983

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Blues Artists of 1920s: itineraries, by Doug Seroff, Whiskey, Women and ... #11
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