

# 45rpm Phono Gazette

## Pretty 'em up—Don't Part 'em out



Parts units brought back from the dead

By Doug Robinson

On the agenda was to tear down and put parts away from four players that had been bought for parts.

The first player was a tired out 45EY3 missing the bottom cover and with a severely broken main cabinet. It was quick work to strip out the amp, changer and anything else of use.

Next up were a couple of changer units, a 45JY and a 45J2. I started with the 45JY which had a pie shaped piece of the cabinet broken out just below the opening for the off/on knob. I removed the bottom cover.

**SURPRISE!** There was the missing piece—taped to the inside of the bottom cover! That's when the light bulb went on and I decided to save these players rather than part them out. While it's true that they're not original; they're now enjoying a second chance at playing records. Not only that—they look great.



RCA Victor model 45EY after facelift

The broken out piece was glued into place, any voids were filled with body filler--Bondo! The entire cabinet was then wet sanded to remove any light scratches and to provide a uniform surface for paint. After being primed, two coats of Rustoleum "Surprise Red" were applied to the cabinet. The turntable had a nearly flawless pad from the factory--so it was put into the parts cabinet, and a turntable that was missing the pad was put into service. The turntable, tone arm (stripped and

primed) and lower edge of the bottom cover were painted gold. A new turntable pad was made and applied to the turntable.

The 45J2 was in average condition with the usual problems. Except for one: A previous owner had drilled a hole in the front of the cabinet below the tone arm, adding a control for volume and bypassing the off/on switch. There was a big, ugly knob sticking out of the front of the player. That had to go! Of course, more sanding, priming and painting (Rustoleum "Antique Ivory") of the cabinet and motor board. The familiar red and black accessories were removed; and a white tone arm, spindle cap and off/on/reject button were added. What to do about that gaping hole? At first, I was going to cover it with just the "Nipper" coin removed from the tone arm of an RP-205 4-speed record changer. However, it seemed too small and got "lost" in that sea of ivory paint. The answer was to use the whole manual tone arm lift from the RP-205--reinstalling the coin--now it looks like a wing!

The 45EY1 had a multitude of problems. It was moldy, stunk like cat pee, the gold paint on top of the cabinet was turning green, peeling and flaking off! After a total tear down, the cabinet was wet sanded, primed and painted (Rustoleum "Smoke Grey"). The tone arm and turntable were painted semi-gloss black; the lower edge of the bottom cover was curled up and as flexible as a potato chip! So--a new pad was made. The red spindle cap was reused.

The Lowrider cartridges and turntable pads came from Willie Bosco; idler wheels are from Mr. Ed Crockett of Vintage Electronics. Great people producing quality products.

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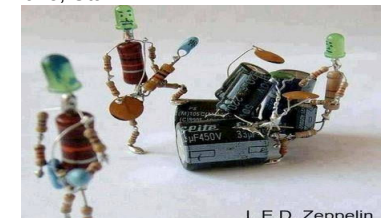
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Symphonic Model 1245

Here are some shots of a recent thrift store find – the Symphonic model 1245 with a fitted carrying case. As you can see there is a small step at the back of the carrying case that keeps the player in the forward position, leaving space to tuck the AC cord. However – there is a flaw in the design. The player can be used while in the carrying case, but the lid cannot be closed with a stack of records on the spindle. The lid won't close with the changer in that forward position.

That's the 45 player news from Salt Lake, Utah.



L.E.D. Zeppelin

Internet- source unknown

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Watch How You Store Those LPs!



**Damaged LP cause by pressure and plastic sleeves**

**By Phil Vourtsis**

This past winter I was fortunate enough to get my hands on 97 classical LPs from England. All are in mint condition from the 1970's. Now I know the quality of LPs in the US really deteriorated during the 70s but these English records are superb. The different labels used different types of sleeves including paper, paper with plastic, and the old style that looks like onion skin. Unfortunately it appears that the records were stacked flat on a table in a huge pile for an extended period of time. The records closest to the bottom of the pile had the most pressure applied. Those that had plastic inner sleeves started showing the wiggly lines you see in the

picture above. Those very near the bottom, like this record, had permanent damage. After a thorough cleaning with a record vacuum the lines were still there. I played the record and the noise generated by the embedded lines was horrific. It was almost as loud as the music. As I went through the rest of the pile of records getting further from the bottom the records with plastic sleeves still showed the lines but I was able to remove them with the record vacuum. So it is definitely a combination of pressure and plastic sleeves causing the damage. So when they say to store the records vertically they aren't kidding! No records with paper or onion skin inner sleeves had any defects.



What is this?

I did a double-take when I saw this item on eBay. I had to look back a second time to realize that the changer had been installed backwards!

# *45rpm Phono Gazette*



RCA Victor ad from mid 1950s.

**Who needs furniture! Why not dress in your Sunday best and spend the afternoon listening to records in an empty room!**

# The 45rpm Phono Gazette

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