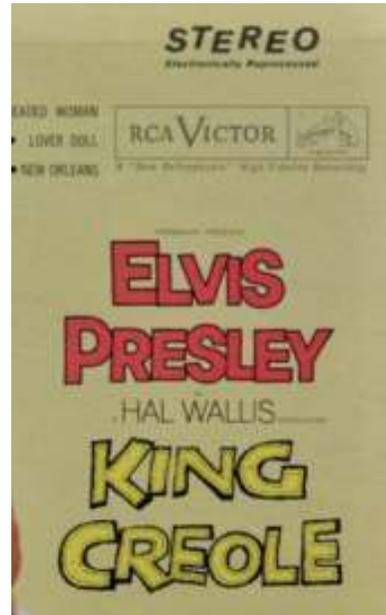


45rpm Phono Gazette

Electronically Rechanneled for Stereo

By Jim Diamond

I never liked the "Stereo processed From Mono" like RCA-Victor did in the early to late 60's to their Elvis Presley catalog of his 1950's material. It sounded AWFUL. If you have a copy of "Elvis Golden Hits" (Volume 1 and 2) check it out! If you listen to the so-called "stereo" effect on "Heartbreak Hotel", it's so garbled with so much echo, it makes the Stan Freberg parody almost tame by comparison!. If "Jailhouse Rock" had been released originally in reprocessed stereo it would have NEVER been the huge hit it became in 1957! The Beatles early stuff WAS issued in TRUE stereo in England. But for many years in the 60's and afterwards, their first several albums were released only in either mono or what their label in America, Capitol Records, called "Duophonic". Most of the record companies cashed in on the new stereophonic (as they called it then) record players, by reissuing their older material from the 50's in phony stereo. Usually, you heard echo on one channel, and a tinny sound on the other channel. WHY did they basically



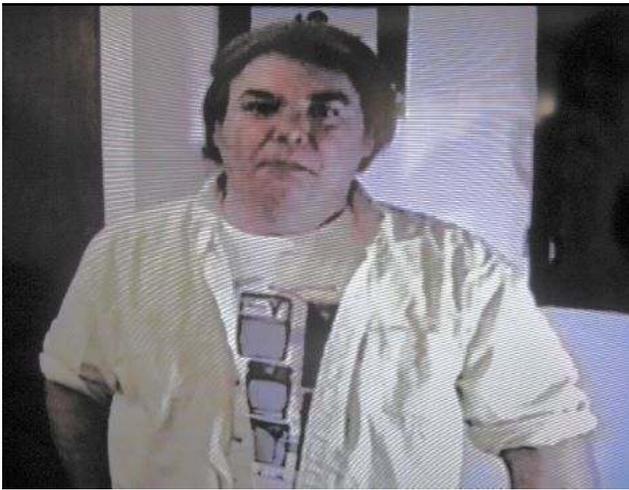
"Under the word "STEREO" in the picture, it says "Electronically Reprocessed. On Columbia records they said "Electronically rechanneled for Stereo".



RUIN the pure monaural sound all the artists and their record labels had crafted so carefully for the public? I can sum it up in TWO words, "CORPORATE GREED"! This defamation of the artist's work was also noticeable on early Beach Boys in Duophonic Stereo as well on their first few albums too!

Back then in the 60's, all I had was a automatic 4 speed mono record player. I NEVER enjoyed the garbled electronic stereo. I would always grab the mono versions of an LP. In 1968, most of the major record companies stopped releasing mono LPs! This made my situation worse because I couldn't afford to buy a stereo until years later in the 70's. It really wasn't until the CD era began, that there was a push for better sound. You could finally get the early artist's LP's or CD's in either mono or TRUE stereo! At least, we've come (thankfully) full circle musically. Phil Spector himself once said "Back To Mono". Not a bad idea....

The 45rpm Phono Gazette



We lost another
great contributor to
our hobby.
Paul Childress

By James Romano

Here's my story about Paul. My first purchase from the late, great Paul Childress was back in September 2004. It was not only my first purchase from him, but it was my first purchase on ebay. In fact, I only signed up for ebay to make this purchase. We were forced to use computers at my job in August 2004, so one Saturday when it was really slow, I decided to just search the words "Record Player". Hundreds of ebay auctions showed up on my screen, but one seller out shined all the rest with his pictures, descriptions & total cleaning & restoration of these RCA Victor 45 RPM phonographs. You could eat off the parts inside his restorations. It made all the difference to me. Willie Bosco told me years ago that Paul was the first to do these complete restorations & sell them on ebay. I was so happy with my first unit that I ended up buying a total of ten restorations from him in just

one year. He included a video with your purchase showing a complete restoration of the RP-190 record changer. I always worked on them since I was a kid in the 1960's, but only did repairs. I never would have taken one completely apart, clean every single part until it looked like new, then reassemble the changer to look & work perfect. After seeing his video, I was able to do it with no issues. I picked up the amp restoration on my own & started doing restoration & repair work on these & other changers. I restored many J-2 models as well. Those were great times. Paul has sold up to 3 units in one week back when things were better in the world. Willie sold plenty too. I kept in touch with Paul the most. We sent emails, birthday cards & Christmas cards every year. We wrote each other for all the major Holidays. I sent him a birthday card as usual in December 2022 and didn't hear

back from him. After losing Willie Bosco, Chris Cuff and Tony Altavilla, I got worried and called him. His wife told me the bad news. Paul had passed away from cancer in July 2022. He was diagnosed in December 2021. His birthday was December 10th & I sent him a card in 2021 & he wrote me to thank me. I wrote him to wish him a Merry Christmas & he wrote back, so I guess he was diagnosed late December 2021 or he just didn't want to discuss it. I really miss him. He loved records, jukeboxes, radios, guitars, animals & he was a very good musician. It was a shock to those of us who knew him because we had no warning. His wife asked me to tell everybody I could that he passed because she doesn't have any of his pass words & can't contact any of his friends. Rest In Peace Paul. We'll all miss you my friend.

The 45 rpm Phono Gazette

Flashback from 1999



Part of Paul's Phonograph Collection enjoying the afternoon on his deck

PROFILE

Paul Childress from Chesterfield, Virginia

I believe I found my first RCA Victor player, a 45EY2, in the mid 1970's at a yard sale for just pocket change. I did not think much of it because I could not get it to work right. The thing stayed in the trunk of my car for over a year until someone noticed it, liked it and I just gave it to him.

In the mid 1980's, I tried to start a collection of the RCA players but was very disappointed in the performance once again. I must have had six 45EY2's and sold them all for \$15 a pop! Then I ran into a friend who rebuilds amplifiers in phonographs and jukeboxes. He suggested that I replace all the capacitors in the amplifier, replace the cartridge and revitalize the rubber. That did it! Now my interest grew very strong in the little 45 players. Searching high and low, I would try to find different models to take home and rebuild. I enjoy restoring them as much as I enjoy finding them. My collection is nowhere massive as some of you reading this now, but working at a thrift store for over 17 years has been a big plus!

Paul has done some real interesting things with decals on these machines. Using a scanner, computer and color printer, he has created an impressive Alice In Wonderland player. (Story in July '98 Gazette)

The Workbench



Record Dropping Mechanisms

RCA Victor utilized two different types of record dropping mechanisms in the spindle of the 45 rpm machines. The first type, which was used on the rp-168 changer during the first year (1949), used rotating gears. The shaft running through the center of the spindle had a gear mounted on top. This gear would then mesh with two other gears, each one operating the spindle shelves and separators. The separators would rotate in and out of the spindle during the reject cycle. The problem with this design was that a record that was too thick (out of spec) would jam the mechanism. The only way to free it up was to gently rotate the separators in the opposite direction by twisting the star wheel. This was not intuitive to John Q. Public and many owners just tugged and pulled on the records trying to free them. Many times this would lead to breaking records or the phonograph.

The new improved design allowed the separators to be pushed in and out with a spring load. This way if a jam occurred, the separators would push against the record, but the spindle would keep turning finishing the reject cycle. If the machine has an old, slick idler wheel the changer might stall but then you could turn the spindle by hand to easily finish the reject cycle.

The new improved design was used in the rp-168 changer in 1950 and was incorporated into the new Rp-190 changer for the entire model run.

WANT LIST

Bob Becker
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7 Woodland Road
Woodcliff Lake, NJ 07677
rdbbecker@aol.com
Beige knob for 8EY4FK
Large tuning or vol knob for
9Y510,6JM25 Ding Dong
Slideomatic
7HF45 Oak or Maple
8EY4DJ gray plastic front
Decca blk/red portable 45
player

Joe Bentrovato
(973.361.7392)
Need 45rpm adapter
(EPS3) for Delmonico
model 1025 consolette
stereo phono.
Looking for optional power
supply for 'skipper' model.

Charles Cummins
(817-732-4313)
3912 Calmont Ave
Fort Worth, Texas 76107

David Cox
(937)484-3241
1407 Knight Road
Urbana, OH 43078
dcc49@yahoo.com
45 spindle for Admiral
5W12N 2-speed record
player, bakelite lid for
Zenith twin 7. Outer
concentric r/p knob for
Emerson 635

Dennis D'Amico
11892 Pine Street
Los Alamitos, CA
90720-4163
lionelguy@yahoo.com

Jim Diamond
(661-396-7867)
JimDiamond61@gmail.com
Want Nat King Cole "Too
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78rpm.

Bill Gourd
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(wood),8HF45P
(portable),4Y511(radio
phono).

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I do 1940s thru 1960s phono
restorations. Call for quotes.

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www.thevoiceofmusic.com
Rebuilding Service - Idlers, cams.
Repair parts including both
V-M and RCA 45 players.

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Myrtle Beach, SC 29588
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