THE VISUAL PARAPHERNALIA OF THE TALKING MACHINE

ono-urap

A R N O L D S C H W A R T Z M A N

Photography by GARRY BROD

CHRONICLE BOOKS SAN FRANCISCO



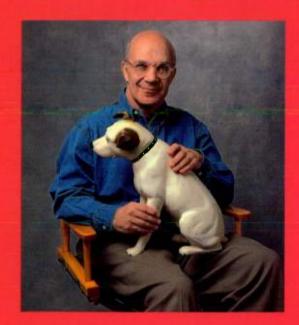
"Get Out Those Old Records, Those Old Phonograph Records..."

TALKING MACHINES, as phonographs were affectionately called in an earlier era, were the leading entertainment medium of their day. The phonograph and its accoutrements were accordingly bedecked in the carefree aesthetic of the period; its 78 rpm discs required expendable needles, which were packaged in colorful tin containers featuring a proliferation of lively designs of animals, landscapes, and dance steps, as well as advertising and patriotic themes. In addition to needle tins, phonograph companies produced an astonishing array of amplifying horns, disc players, picture records, record labels and sleeves, postcards, and advertisements.

Phono-Graphics: The Visual Paraphernalia of the Talking Machine is a dazzling collection of the plethora of products associated with phonographs. Presented in glorious color photographs, the objects and their graphics are entertaining in their own right and provide a panoramic view of the design styles of the times, from the Art Nouveau epoch of Pagliacci to the Art Deco era of Pinocchio.

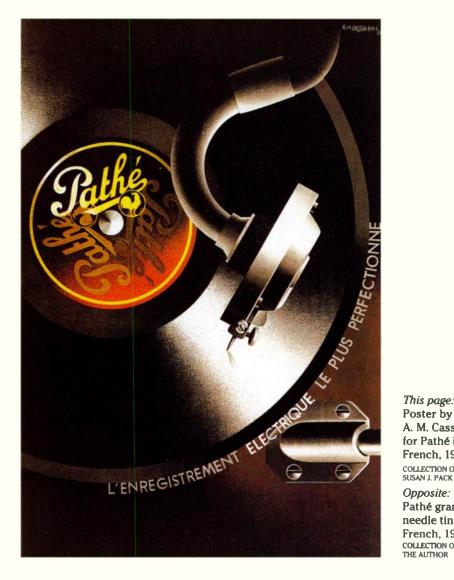
A visual treasure trove, *Phono-Graphics* is an irresistible collection of memorabilia for all music fans and nostalgia buffs as well as designers looking for the best of a bygone era. ARNOLD SCHWARTZMAN, British filmmaker and graphic designer, moved to Hollywood, California, in 1978. For producing the documentary feature *Genocide* (1981)—which he also directed—he received an Academy Award. Schwartzman was elected to the Alliance Graphique Internationale in 1974, and in 1982 he was appointed the Director of Design for the 1984 Olympic Games, Los Angeles.

Coauthor, with Len Deighton, of Airshipwreck (1978) and author of Graven Images (1993), he is an avid collector of printed ephemera and enjoys exploring the flea markets of Europe seeking additions to his collection of phonograph needle tins.





Printed in Hong Kong.



This page: Poster by A. M. Cassandra for Pathé Disques. French, 1932. COLLECTION OF SUSAN J. PACK

Pathé gramophone needle tin, French, 1920's. COLLECTION OF

# For Isolde







## INTRODUCTION

ictor and Victrola's trademark became synonymous with home entertainment at the turn of this century. Its visual identity and that of other talking machine companies produced a plethora of graphic images, from cylinder boxes, record labels, and advertising, to the designs on picture records and phonograph needle tins.

Out of my interest in the graphics that decorated these tins came a desire to seek other related items created for this medium. One day I secured an invitation to attend a meeting of The City of London Phonograph and Gramophone Society, founded in 1919. Their monthly meetings were held in a private room above The White Swan public house in the hub of London's newspaper district.

The Society's members were seated at small separate tables clutching pints of beer and facing the bar at the far end of the room where, beside a large horned phonograph, a life-size white plaster bust of the Society's "patron saint," Thomas Alva Edison, took pride of place. The Club Secretary confided to me that prior to each meeting he would give Mr. Edison a good scrub in his bath!

The evening's "recitalist" proudly produced a selection of phonograph cylinders out of a large well-worn suitcase, and proceeded to introduce each recording in minute detail: "This Blue Amberol cylinder was recorded in an Army Drill Hall in 1912", and so on. Every nuance of the recording technique was elaborated upon.

Halfway through the evening's program, the Society's Chairman addressed the membership with "housekeeping" announcements, followed by the Secretary, who gravely announced the passing of a fellow member and, as a mark of respect to the departed devotee, requested thirty seconds of silence. Due to the advanced age of the membership, this was a regular item on the agenda.

The end of the period of silence was broken by a nervous cough from the Secretary, who then proceeded to announce that the deceased's widow now wished to sell the long-coveted collection of phonographs, cylinders, and hill-and-dale discs: "Would those members interested in purchasing any of these items please see me for the address and telephone number?", at

which point there was a frantic scramble to the Secretary's table! Such is the passion for the Talking Machine.

From Caruso to Crosby, and from Melba to Madonna, the popularity of the medium has endured—a trend reflected in the



Emile Berliner, inventor of the gramophone, was a Jewish immigrant, as were my grandparents, whose local dealer's advertisement in the London Jewish Times, proclaimed in Yiddish: "Music is the finest language in the world."

enormous sums of money commanded by recording stars today, often surpassing the astronomical fees of the movie industry.

My earliest recollection of the talking machine is my grandparents' Chippendale-style consul gramophone, which stood in the parlor behind their boot repair shop in London's East End. In those wind-up, pre-electric days, in order to muffle the sound my grandparents improvised by placing a *schmutter* (Yiddish for a piece of cloth) into the cabinet's built-in amplifying

> horn. Later models, such as the Victrola, had louvered doors to adjust the volume. Similar louvers were previously used at recording sessions, separating performers such as Enrico Caruso from their accompanying orchestras to

s the finest language in the world." Orc.

create a balance in the sound.

Among my favorite recordings were "The Laughing Song," which was the number one novelty song of its time, and the World War I hit "It's A Long Way to Tipperary," which I still possess—although the fragile shellac disc is severely cracked. I like to think that the sound emitting from my grandparents machine, sans *schmutter*, resonated through the walls, perhaps providing a source of musical inspiration to the young neighbor who became an international recording star: George Shearing.

"Mary had a little lamb...". These first recorded words spoken by Thomas Alva Edison on August 12, 1877, made history in heralding the age of the phonograph and preserving for future generations such voices as Sarah Bernhardt, Prime Minister Gladstone, Alfred Lord Tennyson, and Queen Victoria.

Similar to the early motion pictures, having no means of mass duplication prior to 1902, it was necessary to record each cylinder one at a time.

In Washington, D.C. on November 8, 1887, German immigrant Emile Berliner invented the first version of the disc gramophone. Not to be out-done by Edison's nursery rhyme, Berliner recorded: "Tvinkle, tvinkle little star, how I vonder vot you are."!

Berliner's agent, William Barry Owens,

was exhibiting his new gramophone at London's Thames-side Hotel Cecil, while next door at The Savoy, Guglielmo Marconi was perfecting his invention: the radio.

The term gramophone is still used

in Great Britain, however in the United States the machine became generically known as the phonograph or Victrolathe trade name of the **Victor Talking** Machine Company. Berliner's invention became the most popular medium of its time, generating a profusion of related items, such as the phonograph disc and its variety of label designs, first introduced



Invented in 1877 by Thomas , still controls and manufacture

in 1900. The disc's surface was sometimes illustrated to further endorse the record's theme.

The advertisements for the Talking

Machines and their discs often included endorsements by stars such as Maurice Chevalier, and illustrations by distinguished French artists such as A. M. Cassandra and Jean Carlu.

The phonograph cabinet became a part of the American home's furniture,



Edison. It is one of Mr. Edison's favorite inventions. He t. He is constantly at work developing and improving it.

and was available in a variety of styles, from Gothic and Tudor, to "pseudo-Jaco", William and Mary and Queen Anne, to the eighteenth-century classic style of cabinet makers such as Adam, Chippendale, Hepplewhite, and Sheraton. This invention spawned an enormous industry of related graphic ephemera.

The phonograph was the leading entertainment medium of its day, and its 78 rpm discs required expendable needles that were housed in colorful containers. A proliferation of designs, created by anonymous lithographers of the day, illustrated the wide variety of subject matter manufacturers employed to merchandise them.

The majority of the hinged tins are rectangular, and measure less than two inches across. There are, however, a variety of shapes and materials, such as tin pyramids and bells, bamboo or lacquered wooden boxes, and even a grand piano made of Bakelite. Usually holding two hundred needles, most containers carry the warning: "To be used once only", printed in gold on black paper.

Since it was the diameter and length of the needle that regulated the

volume, the tins were often color coded to denote soft, medium, loud, or extra-loud tone. The tins' designs reflect various periods of style, from the Art Nouveau age of Pagliacci to the Art Deco era of Pinocchio.

Though tin was usually the material of choice in the twenties, some of the containers were made of Bakelite. Often, the inside of the tin's lid was lined with a paper advertisement bearing the name and address of the retailer. But the tins also served as advertisements for the numerous record companies, such as Brunswick, Columbia, Decca, "His Master's Voice", Odeon, and Pathé.

Since British steel was proclaimed to be of the finest quality, the designs also frequently displayed patriotic motifs. It was not unusual for the "Union Jack", the name "Britannia", or the British bulldog to be used in the gramophone needle tins' design.

To compete, German manufacturers used the strategy of producing more elaborate and colorful designs, such as the popular dance steps of the day—

12

An advertising lithograph from Francis Barraud's painting of Nipper listening to a Type B Victor Talking Machine, 1901, referred to as the "Trademark Machine" COLLECTION OF THE ALTHOR Inset. "His Master's Voice" trademark patent application, 1900.



VICTOR

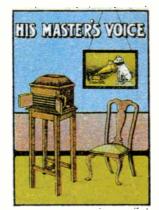


the fox trot, the tango, and the shimmy, others were adorned with historic figures, views of German cities, shadowgraphs, aeroplanes, submarines, or castles on the Rhine.

One of the world's most famous trademarks came about through sheer serendipity. On May 31,1899, the noted British portrait painter, Francis

Barraud, called upon The Gramophone Company at their London headquarters in Maiden Lane, seeking to borrow an amplifying horn as a reference for his painting.

Upon being introduced to the company's General Manager, William Barry Owen, Barraud showed him the nearly completed painting of his brother's dog Nipper listening to a phonograph. Owen was most impressed with the painting. He agreed to the loan of the horn, and also offered to buy the painting when completed. The men agreed on the grand sum of one hundred pounds, including the copyright, providing Barraud substitute the



existing phonograph cylinder machine in the painting with a Gramophone Company disc player.

As Barraud was leaving the show-room after delivering the completed painting, Owens called after him, enquiring whether the painting had a name. The artist's immediate response

was: "His Master's Voice".

Plagiarisms of Francis Barraud's painting of Nipper listening to a horned gramophone abounded. Some versions show a dog and baby, a dog and radio, a dog and telephone, as well as a man in an armchair listening to "His Favourite Song".

Vintage containers are still to be

FAVOURITE

found at swap meets and antique shops, particularly in the flea markets of Europe, sometimes virtually untouched, still wrapped in their



original paper seals just as they had come from the manufacturer, some eighty years ago.

By World War II, tins were replaced by paper packs, and finally, in 1948, the need to frequently change needles ceased with Peter Goldmark's invention of the vinyl microgroove LP, and its longlasting stylus.

The advent of the long-playing record brought about the new artform of the album cover and cassette label, replacing the brown paper sleeve. The arrival of radio and television broke the phonograph's monopoly of the public's attention. The steel needle has been replaced by the laser beam, and in its current digital CD incarnation, the recording industry enjoys a multibillion dollar business.

This album of phonographic memorabilia will transport the reader on a nostalgic ramble over the hills and dales of a visual collectanea of the Talking Machine and its paraphernalia.

ARNOLD SCHWARTZMAN Hollywood, 1993

Opposite: "His Master's Voice" decal, and a triangular German gramophone needle tin, 1920's. This page: Le Disque Pathé record label, "Nostalgie", 1930's. Right: Trademark for a French phonograph company, 1931.

EL PIZARRO)

TANGO Orchestre Argentin

Manuel PIZARRO

K N 300486

X. 8687

## **PHONOGRAPHS AND CYLINDER BOXES**

Thomas Alva Edison invented the phonograph in 1877, spawning an industry of Talking Machines and cylinders.

RAPHOPHO



World Radio History

TRUCTR

Three Columbia Graphophone cylinder machines. *Left* Columbia Type AB, 1901. *Center* Con operated Columbia Type BS, 1898. *Right* Columbia Type AA, 1901.

World Radio History

GRAPHOPHONE

RAPHOPHONE

Real Machines, Real

ALEA!



This page: Busy Bee Graphophone, Neil-James Company, Chicago, 1902. COLLECTION OF JOE URBANOVITCH

Opposite and pages 20/21: A collection of cylinder boxes. Collection of LARRY IEINN









# **DISC PLAYERS**

The invention of the disc playing gramophone by Emile Berliner in 1887 superseded Thomas Edison's phonograph and its cylinders.

Three Victor Talking Machines. Left: The Type P Victor Premium, 1902-06. This machine was given away as a premium with the purchase of a number of records. Center: The Victor Royal, 1902-04. Right: The Victor Monarch Junior (E), 1902-05. COLLECTION OF JOE URBANOVITCH



















CONDOR

TERED TRADE MAN

~















































#### **Opposite**:

A collection of H.M.V. and Victor needle tins, dating from 1903. One of the earliest is labelled: The Gramophone and Talking Machine Typewriter Ltd. COLLECTION OF THE AUTHOR

#### This page:

The Victor Royal Talking Machine, 1902–04, which sold for \$15, stands in for the "Trademark Machine".

COLLECTION OF JOE URBANOVITCH

### "Nipper".

COLLECTION OF BILL FLAYER



ACHENDE LIEBE Intermezzo und Two-st.p. aus "Hoheit amüsiert sich Turmaphon-Orchester LAUCHINGLOVE nom "Anusements of his Highness" Turmaphon orchestra T. 607 5059

HON

MAP

7. 1

This page: The success of "His Master's Voice" and its trademark brought about a spate of plagiarism. A British postcard, a German record label and a Japanese match box label.

Opposite: A collection of German and Japanese phonograph needle tins. COLLECTION OF THE AUTHOR

26



## **AMPLIFYING HORNS**

Usually made of wood or metal, amplifying horns were often decorative in their configuration and surface design.





Opposite: Columbia Graphophone, 1902. COLLECTION OF LUKE DE NITTO

#### This page: Secession postcards from the Wiener Werkstaette school by artists (left) Moriz Jung and (right) Maria Likarz-Strauss, Austria, 1907. COLLECTION OF THE AUTHOR



GOTT, DIESER EISENBACI











200

Refined

Steel-Needles

for all Talking Machines





















World Radio History

32

### Opposite:

Collection of needle tins displaying horned disc players.

COLLECTION OF THE AUTHOR

This page: Victor IV phonograph with nickel horn, 1902–1920.

COLLECTION OF JOE LEBRANOVITCH

33



POR THE ANTHON

Music sheet cover: "The Song of Mister Phonograph", 1878. "My name is Mister Phono-graph and I'm not so very old; My Father he's called E...dison, and I'm worth my weight in gold..." COLLECTION OF BILL FLAYER



Music sheet cover: The "Record" Lancers, 1906.

COLLECTION OF MARTIN AND JILLIANA RANICOR-BREEZE

34





# Sousa's Band plays for you

and it plays music of your own choosing. The band of the great March King plays as many encores as you wish—such playing as is possible only when Victor records and Victrola instruments are used together. You can hear not only Sousa's Band, but Conway's Band, Pryor's Band, Vessella's Band, U. S. Marine Band, Garde Republicaine Band of France, Band of H. M. Coldstream Guards, Banda De Alabarderos — the greatest bands of every nation and the best music of all the kinds the whole world has to offer.

Victrolas \$25 to \$1500. New Victor Records demonstrated at all dealers in Victor products on the 1st of each month.



Important Look for these trade-marks. Under the lid. On the label. Victor Talking Machine Company, Camden, New Jersey This page: Victrola advertisement featuring John Philip Sousa.

Opposite: The Victor Monarch Junior (E), 1904. COLLECTION OF BILL FLAYER



# How did they all get in there?

Your wonder and admiration of the VICTOR increase as you hear one after the other, the stirring music of the world's greatest bands, the magnificent voices of the most famous grand opera stars, the sidesplitting jokes and comic songs of the funniest minstrels, the beautiful gospel hymns by noted soloists and celebrated choirs.

Vieta

Ask your dealer to play some of the newest VICTOR records and write to us for complete catalogue. VICTOR TALKING MACHINE CO.

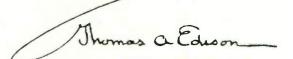
-----

This page: "How Did They All Get In There?" An advertisement for the Victor VI. COLLECTION OF BILL FLAYER

*Opposite:* The Victor VI, 1904–15.

COLLECTION OF JOE URBANOVITCH







This page: Thomas Edison, 1847–1931. ILLUSTRATION BY THE AUTHOR

Opposite: Edison Home Phonograph, Model B, 1905. COLLECTION OF GARRY BROD

40

World Radio His



#### Double Volume of Sound

ERE is the explanation of the Dupkes principle. When you hat stin pan with a tick, which adder of the tin pan gives forth the noise? Why, both wales, of course. If you collect the waves hom the other with the principle of the part of the part of the part of the part of the time pant of the time pant of the the part of the part made the tree waves the part of the tofore, one-hall of the tound travers were waves and the only phenergraph to collect the vitamions and get all the sound tram back sides of the size of the transformed the transformed the the part of the part of the sound tram back sides of the size of the transformed the transformed the transformed the part of the the sound tram back sides of the size of the transformed the transformed the transformed the part of the part of the sound transformed to the origin phenergraph to collect the vitamions and get all the sound transformed the one tak size of the size of the sound transformed the sound transformed the sound transformed the sound transformed to the sound transformed to the of heads flightnergens. The Daske, therefore, gives you all the music produced-with any wave these head to be add the sound transformed the sound transformed to the sound

#### Purer, Sweeter Tone

Purer, Suceeter Tone
Tore and the series of the series of

#### The Ideal Christmas Gift

Sond,

Let Us Send You This

#### Write To-day for Catalogue

and full particulars of the Duplex Phonograph, and details of our direct-from factory selling plan.

We Pay the Freight

With every Duplex we give an 2-mch or three to - mch records leee.

> Size of cabinet, 18 inches by 14 by 10 inches high

R

O. Transfer



#### **Direct** from the Factory

A part of the set of t



and a

= An =

Phonograph On Trial

#### Music in Your Home

 Music in Your Home

 This what a Dwer bronogrady will wasn to you!

 This was the you!

THE DUPLEX PHONOGRAPH COMPANY, 127 PATTERSON KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN

This twin-horned phonograph was a precursor of stereophonic sound, 1906. COLLECTION OF **KEITH CENEDELLA** 



The Edison "Fireside" Model A, 1909, playing an Edison Royal Purple cylinder, circa 1918. COLLECTION OF LARRY DUNN



#### Opposite:

Phonograph cylinder box labels. Edison Records "Echo all over the world" while The Clarion Record "Floods the world with melody".

This page The Edison "Opera" Phonograph, 1912. COLLECTION OF BILL FLAYER

EDISON IMBEROL RECORD

# POSTCARDS



The golden age of the Victrola coincided with the heyday of the postcard.

The popularity of the phonograph generated a proliferation of postcard images, as in these British World War I examples. COLLECTION OF JERRY MADSEN

CAKE ME BACK TO DEAR OLD BLIGHTY.(2) Take me back to dear old Blighty, put me on the train for London town, Take me over there, drop me anywhere, Birmingham, Leeds, or Manchester-well, I don't care ! soon shall be; Whoa ! Tiddley-iddley-ighty, hurry me home to Blighty-Blighty is the place for me.





### ADVERTISING

WILL YOU OPEN YOUR DOOR TO ALL THE WORLD OF ALL THE WORLD

Much creativity went into the advertising and related collateral of the Victrola.

"Will you open your door to all the music of all the world?" Brochure advertising the Victrola XVI, 1907–21. COLLECTION OF JERRY MADSEN ere is a Victrola in the home every musical longing is satisfied. oung complete surroccoded by these intimate friends willing and eager to one multima add all these nich pleasants to your home for the enjoyment of family and friends.

THE WORLD'S GREATEST ARTIST THEY ALL MAKE RECORD ELECLOSIVELY FOR THE VICTOR, AR-THEM FORWARD FOR THE ENTERTAINMENT OF HER FRIENDS, IN LIK TO ERTER YOUR HOME. "After dinner, introduce your guests to the world's greatest artists." Victor brochure featuring the Victrola XVI, 1907–21. COLLECTION OF BILL FLAYER

World Radio History

After dinner introduce your guests to



#### Dancing is delightful to the music of the Victrola

Every one enjoys dancing to music of such splendid volume, such clearness and perfect rhythm and the Victrola plays as long as any one wants to dance.

The Victrola brings to you all kinds of music and entertainment, superbly rendered by the world's greatest artists who make records exclusively for the Victor.

records exclusively for the Victor. Any Victor dealer will gladly play the latest dance music or any other music you wish to hear. There are Victors and Victorlas in great variety of styles from \$ao to \$ao. Victor Talking Machine Co., Canden, N. J., U. S. A.



This page: An advertisement for a custom-made hand-painted Victrola cabinet, 1914. COLLECTION OF BILL FLAYER

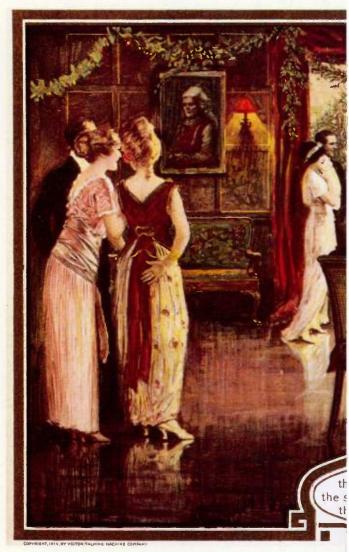
Opposite: The Victor XXV, known as the "Schoolhouse Victor", 1913–25. COLLECTION OF JOE URBANOVITCH



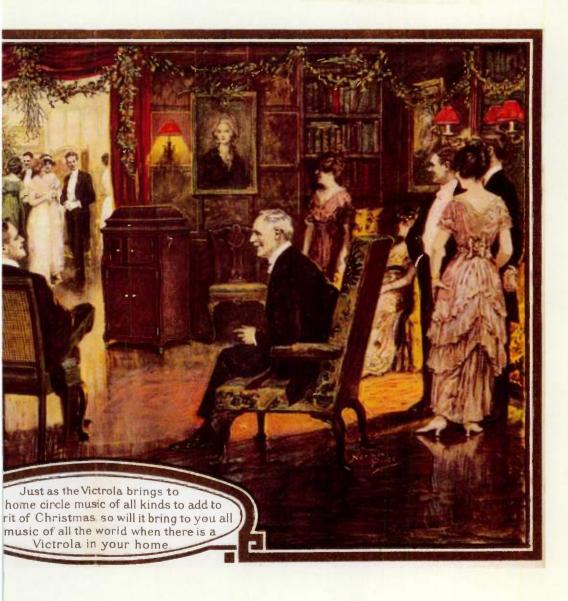




"There should be music in every home on Christmas morning." 1914 brochure advertising the Victrola XVI, 1907–21. COLLECTION OF JERRY MADSEN



52





Press advertisement for the Victrola XVIII, 1915-16. COLLECTION OF BILL FLAYER Brochure advertising the Victrola XVIII, 1915-16. COLLECTION OF BILL FLAYER Press advertisement, 1914, promoting the Victrola XVI, 1907-21. COLLECTION OF BILL FLAYER

54

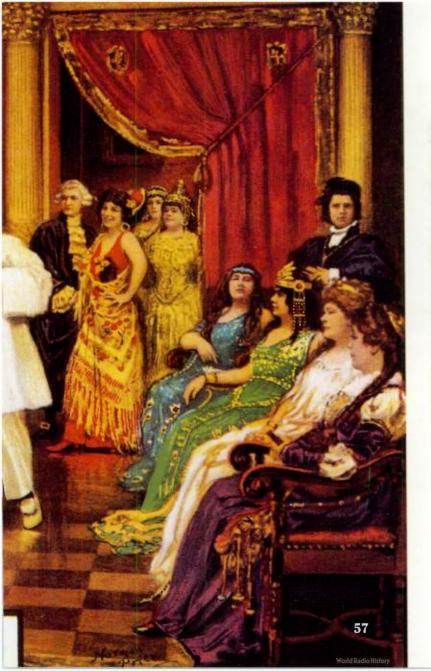


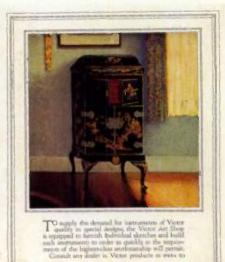
The Victrola XVIII, 1915–16. This machine was Victor's top-of-the-line Victrola, and sold for around \$400.

COLLECTION OF JOE URBANOVITCH

Brochure for the Victrola XVII, 1916–31. Amongst the artists featured is Enrico Caruso in the role of Pagliacci. COLLECTION OF JERRY MADSEN

> The Victrola—the only instrument that brings the world's greatest artists into your home





#### Above:

Victrola Under Falleng Machine Company, Cambon 14

> This magazine advertisement shows a black lacquer chinoiserie cabinet. Period Victrolas were produced between 1917 and 1925. COLLECTION OF BILL FLAYER



is measured by whie Ton

> HE RECORD played on the Columbia Gratonola is more than a record-it is reality. Through the marvelous Columbia reproducer, every individual musical pulsation-every modulation of every note comes back with volume and warmth the same as the very original itself.

> Its reproduction is as true as a mirror to every beauty of musical art-a triumph of perfected scientific precision. The spleadid resonance so essential to reproducing orchestral music; the delicacy needed to carry the notes of whispering woodwinds and murmuring strings; the ability to convey the living normth that gives great voices their personalitythese make up the miraculous perfection of the Columbia reproducer and Columbia TONE.

> Clear, natural, brilliant, true-these words are hardly enough to describe it. Only one word can truly tell all that "Columbia tone" implies-and that single word is: LIFE!

> > Look for ter "stars-ant" made mert-de mert of a gravies Columbia Codpusie



**Columbia Records** advertisement features Lazaro, 1916. **COLLECTION OF** BILL FLAYER

himbia

Note the

The Tenor of the Generation"

Columbia Grafonola advertisement shows a Reproducer, 1917. COLLECTION OF BILL FLAYER

**Opposite**: Gramophone reproducers. COLLECTION OF JOE URBANOVITCH

58

World Radio History

This is the Voice

the World has Crowned

THE voice that swept whole countries into adoration, that thrilled audiences into frenzied bursts of cheering : a vocal miracle, a

You have never heard "Celeste Aida" or the great aria from

marvel-voice, a voice that has been called the greatest ever known

"I Puritani" sung as they pour from the throat of Lazaro. And you

can hear them before the great tenor himself makes his first appearance on the stage in this country, on some of the most marvelous

Hear these wonderful Lazaro records at your Calumbia dealer's. Columbia

Columbia Records ever made in all record history.





This page: Advertisement for Columbia Double Disc records.

**Opposite** Left: The Columbia Non-Set Automatic Stop Grafonola. The period design model was priced up to \$2,100, 1920. Right: This Christmas-tide advertisement extols the several virtues of the Columbia Grafonola. COLLECTION OF BILL FLAYER

60

# Columbia Grafonola

Christmas Grafonola

The three vital features of your

# Tone control:

Tone:

Convenience:

Columbia Graphophone Co.

COLUMBIA



THE Columbia Cardonals is the imposent musical mileage because Course the Records give Columbia owners the masis they really like and vanit to play, A big, handbeame, clean-voiced instrument is the Columbia Grafonola with a A big, handbeame, clean-voiced instrufic quality and superb volume of tone that does full justice to Columbia Records. For luve, up-to-date rusie on the un-to-class instrument--Columbia Records. For luc-Columbia

Columbia Graphophone Company

New York

FOR joycos, sparking, —Columbia Records on the Columbia Records on the Columbia Records on the Columbia Crafmola. For the latest bia of the top-linese, for the newest, nevely dances, for the comic opera times that everybody's whisting, for the scong the soldiers really sing—Columbia Records on the Columbia Craforada For the great reasts of all space. Sor soperative transmister columbia Craforada For the great reasts of all space. Sor soperative transmister columbia reasts of all space. Sor soperative transmister columbia reasts. For the cochestral trumpia of great symphonies—Columbia

Soldiers advance with fixed bayonets, melding into peacetime dancing couple in this World War I advertisement. Footnote reads: "Food will win the war. Don't waste it.", July 1918. COLLECTION OF BILL FLAYER

World Radio History

Period designs up to \$1

THE SATURDAY EVENING POST

It remained for the Teolian Company to produce a Phonograph that is a True Musical Instrument The AFOLIAN-VO the One Phonograph Possessing the Artistic and Wonderhil Tone Control - THE GRADUOLA

1 1 1 1 1 U

#### (101)

Playing the Plannage of State

a state of the late

in front Pro-

THE AEOLIAN COMPANY

Aeolian-Vocalion advertisements show the Graduola model with its unique tone control, and three William and Mary-style cabinets, 1919. COLLECTION OF BILL FLAYER



#### -VOCALION AEC The The state of t

- For - Connel Prople -

In this has the outside the

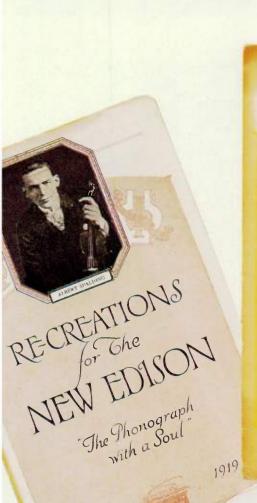
The second secon

Marph 1-199

#### The ADDLAS COMPANY And IN Hall, NOT YOUR CITY



63



October



# RE-CREATIONS

"The Phonograph with a Soul" November 1919

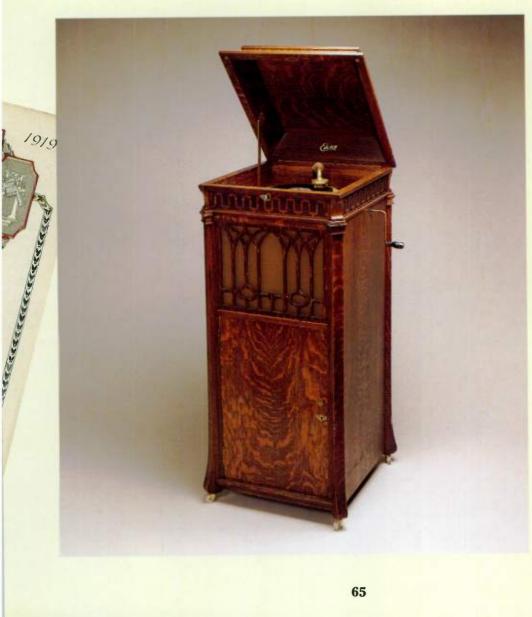
> Edison Phonograph catalogues, October to December, 1919. COLLECTION OF BILL FLAYER

RE-CREATIONS for The NEW EDISON The Phonograph with a Soul

December

ALTER AND A

64



The Edison Diamond Disc Chippendale C/250, 1915–19. COLLECTION OF JOE URBANOVITCH



Victrola brings out its stars for Christmas in this advertisement for the Victrola No. 130, 1921–24. COLLECTION OF BILL FLAYER

# Victrola

The Names That Everybody Knows: Are It The Victor Catalogue

ANE

"The names that everybody knows..." In 1922, the Victor Company produced its first jigsaw puzzle, each piece featuring its classical recording stars. COLLECTION OF JERRY MADSEN

MAR

## **RECORD LABELS AND SLEEVES**

Harmony

and open record

DIVAYS

RE

AND THE WITH ALL

T INCH DOUBLE DISC

The phonograph disc brought about a profusion of decorative record label and sleeve designs.

This page and Opposite: Pre-World War I record labels and sleeves. COLLECTION OF LARRY DUNN

ds

World Radio History

CANON









# PHONOGRAPH NEEDLE TINS

Phonograph needles, "to be used once only", came in a variety of decorative containers.



Above: The illustrations on these Czechoslovakian tins are a souvenir from bygone carefree days. Right: The Columbia 'Talkie' and **Ton-Funk** Pick-Up tins are fine examples of the Art Deco period of design. COLLECTION OF THE AUTHOR









**Opposite**: Phonograph needle containers came in many shapes and materials, including bamboo, cardboard leather, mother-ofpearl, steel, tin, tortoise shell, and wood. Pyramid and bell-shaped tins dispensed one needle at a time from their apex. Some record polishers could be used to store needles. COLLECTION OF THE AUTHOR





A variety of decorative European and Japanese phonograph needle tins. COLLECTION OF THE AUTHOR

AIGUILI

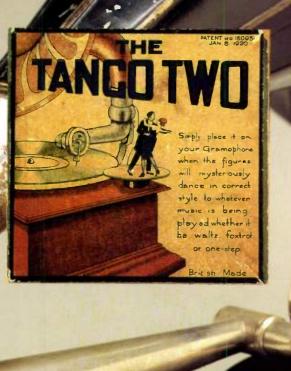
World Radio History

AERO-NEEDLES

UNU

LEACOCK

200 CHARTECLER NEEDLES





**Opposite**: "The Tango Two", a unique accessory which could be easily attached to the edge of a record, and with a variety of templates, the figures performed different dance steps, such as the Waltz, Fox Trot or One Step. British, 1920. COLLECTION OF THE AUTHOR

This page: A set of German phonograph needle tins featuring the popular dance steps of the day. COLLECTION OF THE AUTHOR









DANCE music in the modern mannee ... soft, subdued, melodious ... an urge to be up and on the floor in the sway and swirl of a fox-trot . . . your very being synchronized to the four-four beat of today's most popular dance-form. You are at a smart supper-club - in your own home ! . . . So astonishingly lifelike is reproduction through the Orthophonic Victrola, the orchestra appears to be in the very room, in person. You dance, or sit and listen, to the music of America's foremost organizations, whenever and as often as you wish. . . . When you buy an Orthophonic Victrolz, you buy not merely a great musical instrument, but a source of entertainment without limit, and without surfeit! See your Victor dealer at once and arrange for a demonstration in your homes. VICTOR TALKING MACHINE COMPANY, CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY, U.S.A.





This page: "Let's dance this one." Magazine advertisement for the Orthophonic Victrola model Consolette (Four-Three). 1925 - 28.COLLECTION OF BILL FLAYER

**Opposite**: **Castles** are the theme for this set of German phonograph needle tins.

Pages 80/81: The Art Nouveau cartouche was widely used to embellish phonograph needle tins throughout Europe. COLLECTION OF THE AUTHOR

78

















WHERE FLOOR SPACE IS VALUABLE Quality ENTERTAINMENT IS ASSURED WITH

## THE PORTABLE VICTROLA

DISIGNERS of furniture and other home equipment are now mompletely recognizing the fact that the modern small home and agatmenne demand" 'Luxury in Miniature.'' People enjoy the carefree comfort of the agarmenn, but do not wish its lack of floor space to deprive them of pleasures easily within their means. Hence, the massive furniture of the Victorian epicol is giving place to the small, highly deconsitive, modern cabinetry. In such homes the new Portable Victoria has found itself a most ape centerainer. When not in use it stands in a comer, under a table, or in a closet ..., but in an instant it may be called upon to provide the dandicts (for two or the most inspiring symphony. It is a "portable" in size only: In every respect it is a quality musical instrument, whose Orthophonic Type Soundbox, Antomatic Brahe, and easy Angle-Wind will give you all the fullness of tone and comfort of operation which you naturally expect from a Victor instrument. Thousands have found that it has—

VOLUME ~ WONDERFUL for DANCING





IN TWO STYLES PORTABLE VICTROLA NO. 2-55 List price: \$35.00 Red Pythom-thim Fabrikaid . . . or Padded Blue Fabrikaid another fortable victuola Model in No. 3-35, Let Parke \$25.00 A MARVEDULITLE PR-DEMER



AT SCHOOL OR COLLEGE GOOD FELLOWS GATHER IN THE BOOM WITH THE PORTABLE VICTROLA

Ary boy or girl will tell you that music plays a big part in yaithen, that marvelue Research and the sevent for trot by Rudy valide, ..., that marvelue Research and the sevent sevent hards and the sevent sevent sevent sevent sevent hards and the sevent sevent sevent sevent sevent theorem of pythagona or three pages of Vigil. Let the Geometry and the Latin stick to their study hound When good fellows gather in the "dorm" is's Portable Visrol a Tame! This anappy little Vicro encertainer gives the boys and girls some of their best sport. When they're with the Portable Visrola they're bound to be having a good time ..., and, inidentally, out of mischief II you are a parent, sending a som of daughter to college..., out if you are be "young fur" who's getting together your campus outfit..., don't forget the Portable Vicrola. It's a real economy! It's to study it'l easily last through school and college, and will have plenty of cheer left of the summers in between. It's good looks will appeal to you. Remember, you can get it in two colors...

The Red and the Blue PORTABLE VICTROLAS

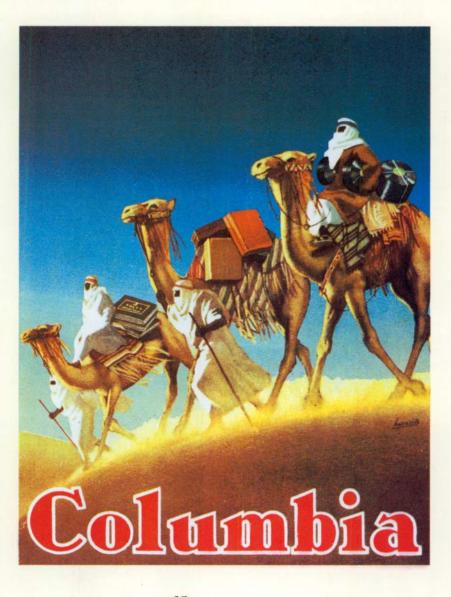


The Art Deco illustrations in this brochure demonstrate the versatility of the Portable Victrola No. 2–55, 1929. COLLECTION OF BILL FLAYER

82







Opposite: A set of Columbia Graphaphone needle tins. COLLECTION OF THE AUTHOR

*This page:* A cover design for a Columbia Records brochure.



This page: These personalized tins advertise dealers' stores in Germany, England, Austria, Holland, and Ireland. H.M.V. dealerships often provided their names and addresses on a decal inside the tin's lid.

UNION: PLATFENSCHONER garantiert aus bestem Stahl, für Platten jeder Marke zu verwenden. Greifen die Platten <u>desotut nichtan</u> GRAMMOPHON IMPORT-HOUSE = JOHANN- ABLETT, = WEN V/I, Wienstrasse 28. *Opposite:* A range of Songster needle tins.

Wolverhampton

Pages 88/89: Animals were a popular theme on European phonograph needle tins. COLLECTION OF THE AUTHOR

MUZIEK-HANDEL J.WEGMAN-HERINGA Nobelstraat 3 Middeltoon UTRECHT NIGHTINGALE SOFT TONE NEEDLE HANUFACTURED EXCLUSIVELY FOR HIBERNIAN RECORD (O 35 South Anne Street DUBLIN

If it's Musical

GET IT AT

86









*Opposite:* A variety of Edison Bell phonograph needle tins.

This page: Japanese phonograph needle tins and paper seal give a French hero an Asian look.

Pages 92/93: Examples of European needle tins. COLLECTION OF THE AUTHOR



1000

EE



















**95** 

These oblong compartmentalized tins held a choice of needles from soft to extra loud. The diameter and length of each needle controlled the volume—the thicker the needle, the louder the sound.











PIANO NORMAL





The introduction of electricity to the phonograph brought about the "pick-up" needle, which could be used ten or more times.

IMPERIAL

NTINE SPECIALI PER RADIO

**99** 

RTISTE

POPUCO

AIGUILI



*This page:* A German poster for Odeon Records, 1929.

Opposite: The invention of Bakelite by Dr. Leo Baekeland in 1906 made available a new material for the containers of phonograph needles. Note the Argentinian container shaped like a grand piano.

Pages 102/103:

The needle tin was essentially a European phenomenon, as in the United States phonograph needles were usually sold in paper packets. COLLECTION OF THE AUTHOR



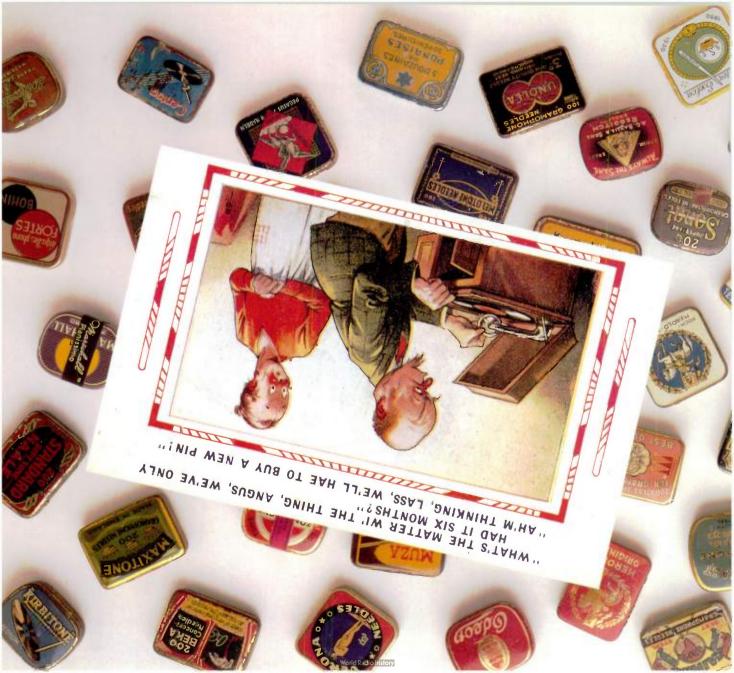














## This page:

The Art Deco period, or Jazz Age, reached its zenith during the late 20's and early 30's, as exemplified in this French "La Voix de Son Maitre" ("His Master's Voice") catalog cover, 1939.

Opposite: Butterfly shaped phonograph needle tins. COLLECTION OF THE AUTHOR



















109

## PICTURE RECORDS

FOUND

The introduction of flexible vinyl records brought with it a new medium for the commercial artist. Francaise ab

> POUR ETRE UN JOUR AME DE TOI TROGNEE et con Orabie Referer sharette aur D Orabiestre uto per DE 195

ULTRAPHONE I & M - CHAPTELL S A

HMB

110

World Radio History

Nº de Cat

SU 5006

H d- Cel

Bal Musette

Makke Nº 18932-i

GOOFUS

POX 18O1

Adaptart LUTTER at son Orchestre de Jass ULTRAPHONE

4+ G. Kolm, W. King

н

a la societe ul traphoni Francai

Art Deco style illustrations cover the complete surface of these French Ultraphone picture records, 1930's.

COLLECTION OF MARTIN AND JILLIANA RANICOR-BREEZE

> LULLABY OF THE LEAVES LOW OL Musice do J Tange of 8 Tahara Ada bent LUTTER of son Orchastra de Jezz

Je o societe Ultraphone Proncess - Patrice of Mil

OHO

MB

M tree Nº



ULTRAPHONE

MARCHE Scherberger Berger and Berger and Berger

14.91

11' dy Cat. 311 5003

of a graphine Francoise - Fabrique o biredone

Platna II Platfic

World Radio History

111

BUY BONDS BUYSTAMPS For 25 cents. a personalized "voice letter" could be recorded onto a Recordio-gram picture disc. STAMPS COLLECTION OF ANY PHONOGRAPH LARRY DUNN BUY DHE OF GENS CONTRACTIONS TO THE MORALE OR AMERICA'S ARMED FORCES AND THE FOLIS BACK HOME cordio-orom NC 9 This is the new Wilcox. Gay Coin Recordio Compliments of on which I mode S this record for ONOB you. the SONO8 LAS SAMATS YUB This record may be played on any modern phonograph. If it slips, lift it from the This World War II turntable, insert pa-per in center hele picture record 5 and press on center sponsored by Gem spindle. razors and blades urged the populace to buy war bonds. COLLECTION OF LARRY DUNN

112







RCA VICTOR .

**Two RCA Victor** advertisements bring "Nipper" back to the fore. Left: Victrola 65U. Right: Victrola 59VI. COLLECTION OF BILL FLAYER

## "His Master's Voice"- The history of a Jamon's Frede Marks



------









"And best of all-links to the site You' You'll agreedin's a truly gean radio-phone with You Adaption's Value analy real false a genty such victors making Tells Vi

The state of the set o





115





## SMART EXECUTIVE-TYPE SANTAS GIVE

Fai yoni hand-vardang interving y-ot a finatisna gdi ha that rou un hondrohen-yung fift of nourse anys un the start year and the hondrohen year (galley) a species of anishing performance and colling physics are constrained in the start of the start of the start of the start of the start colling physics are constrained in the start of the part of the start of the Out og each of the years. RCA Vietner rules and recent

One quark call to your IRLA Yintar ratio and rearn since with state care of this get has speedify, officiently If your large quantity parolane context he filled by th store, and your order to "IRLA Visitor Division, the Q2DG, Candon, N. J." and acteum with the taken to fil your order strength your IRCA Visitor dealer.

"Toposet"--- 1.0. Reg. MA. For. dill. Henry stress pro appropri for programming the Regional New Sentence on the data without within and an processing programming programming consistence. Losso module scheler in the lines with the stress for the data.





RORLD LEADER IN RADIO ... FIRST IN RECORDED MUSIC ... FIRST IN TELEVISION

Advertisement for a range of RCA Victor phonographs, including the Kiddies' Complete "Victrola" with "Alice-in-Wonderland" design, RCA Victor 45EY26.

COLLECTION OF BILL FLAYER

116

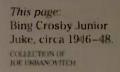
Left: Victrola Electric Portable 1–EMP–2KK, 1950's. *Right:* "Alice-in-Wonderland". RCA Victor 45EY26. COLLECTION OF JOL AND APRIL URBANOVITCH

Sec.

World Radio History

REA UNIO

1000



Opposite:

Children's nursery rhyme records, and music sheet of "When You Wish Upon A Star", from Walt Disney's "Pinocchio", 1939. COLLECTIONOR LARRY JUNN

118



