

JAZZLAND Records

In the midst of the success of Riverside's Contemporary Series, Oriole Keepnews and Bill Grauer founded Jazzland Records as a subsidiary of Riverside Records in 1960. Initially, they reissued Riverside's out-of-print master tapes as budget releases, and also produced new recordings until around 1962.

In 1964, with Riverside's bankruptcy, Jazzland was sold to Orpheum. Riverside's rights transferred to ABC in 1967, but the transition of Jazzland's rights remains unclear. In 1972, Fantasy Records absorbed the label. In 1983, Fantasy launched Original Jazz Classics (OJC) under its umbrella. In 2004, Fantasy Records' parent company Concord Records acquired Jazzland, making it part of Concord Music Group.

Regarding Wes Montgomery's records, there are two notable examples:

The first pressing of 'West Coast Blues!/Harold Land/Jazzland JLP-20' features what is known as the 'small label,' approximately 90mm in diameter, seen also in Riverside releases up to JLP 24, both in mono and stereo. However, 'George Shearing And The Montgomery Brothers/Jazzland JLP-55' in its first pressing features a 'large label,' approximately 100mm in diameter. Furthermore, they are categorized as having grooves ([A]) for first pressings and without grooves ([B]) for first and second editions.

West Coast Blues!



MONO

1st-Original

1.MONO :JLP 20  
2.Label :S  
3.groove :Y

STEREO

1st-Original

1.STEREO :JLP 20S  
2.Label :S  
3.groove :Y

2nd-1

1.STEREO :JLP 920S  
2.Label :L  
3.groove :Y

As a method to distinguish first pressings, those with the 'small label' approximately 90mm in diameter lack the 'BILL GRAUER PRODUCTIONS INC.' inscription at the bottom. Second pressings, characterized by the 'large label' approximately 100mm in diameter, include the 'BILL GRAUER PRODUCTIONS INC.' inscription.

George Shearing And The Montgomery Brothers



On the back cover, the credit changes from 'Bill Grauer Productions' to 'Producers of Riverside Records' upon release. For the front cover, the right side represents the 2nd Cover, which was also used by Orpheum after the bankruptcy.

MONO

1st-Original

1.MONO :JLP 55  
2.Label :L  
3.groove :Y

1st-2

1.MONO :JLP 55  
2.Label :L  
3.groove :N

STEREO

1st-Original

1.STEREO :JLP 955  
2.Label :L  
3.groove :Y

1st-2

1.STEREO :JLP 955  
2.Label :L  
3.groove :N

PROMO盤

1st-promo

1.MONO :JLP 55  
2.Label :L  
3.groove :Y

In the 1st Pressing, MONO discs feature red labels with black text, while STEREO discs have black labels with silver text. After the acquisition by Orpheum, as explained for Riverside labels used as stock presses, there exists a blue-label variant for 'G Shearing And The Montgomery Brothers' 1st Cover on the back jacket with no logo, stating 'Produced by Orpheum Productions.' For the 2nd Cover of the same album, the back jacket states 'Productions of Riverside Records,' yet there are known variants with red labels and black text or the more common beige labels with silver text. These also use Riverside's stock jackets and are labeled as Orpheum Pressings. This makes identification difficult, but the catalog numbers remain consistent.

JAZZLAND

2nd

1.STEREO :JLP 955  
2.Label :L  
3.groove :N  
There are also releases under the Jazzland label,(?) with the back cover stating "Produced by Orpheum Productions," and the label marked as "Bill Grauer Productions," as released by Orpheum.

ORPHEUM

3rd

1.MONO :JLP 55  
2.Label :L  
3.groove :N

3rd

1.STEREO :JLP 920  
2.Label :L  
3.groove :N

3rd

1.STEREO :JLP 955  
2.Label :L  
3.groove :N

Interdisc

1.MONO :No 55  
2.Label :L  
3.groove :N  
Commissioned for sale in France

1.MONO :701 539 WPY  
2.Label :L  
3.groove :Small  
Commissioned for sale in Netherlands