

World Pacific Records

June 1952: Richard Bock (1927–1988) and drummer Roy Hart jointly established the label in Los Angeles. (Note: In spring 1954, Hart co-founded Nocturne Records with bassist Harry Babasin, which was absorbed by Liberty Records in March 1955.)

October 1957: The company was renamed World Pacific Records.

1960: The original Pacific label was revived.

May 1965: The company went bankrupt and the label was sold to Liberty Records. Bock remained as the producer of the World Pacific division.

1968: Liberty Records merged with United Artists Records. Richard Bock also took charge of film music, producing notable films like "Soul to Soul" (1972) and "We Can't Go Home Again" (1973) by director Nicholas Ray. In 1976, Bock and his wife Janet produced the 90-minute documentary "The Lost Years of Jesus."

1979: United Artists Records was acquired by EMI Group. (Note: Toshiba joined the EMI Group in 1973 but withdrew in 2007.)

November 2011: EMI Group's music division was sold to Universal Music Group, which now manages the Pacific Jazz/World Pacific masters. The copyright management division was sold to a Sony affiliate.

Although Wes Montgomery's albums were never released under the Pacific Records label, from 1952 to 1955, 19 albums, known as the [10-Inch Series], were released, including titles from 《The Gerry Mulligan Quartet/PJLP-1》 to 《Bud Shank And Bob Brookmeyer/PJLP-20》. (Note: 《Al Haig Trio/PJLP-18》 was not released).

From 1954 to 1960, the [1200 Series] records transitioned to 12-inch format. There are 99 titles from 《Bud Shank/California Concerts/PJ-1201》 to 《Kimio Eto and Bud Shank/Koto and Flute/PJ-1299》. Wes's albums include 《The Montgomery Brothers And Five Others/PJ-1240》 recorded in December 1957, 《The Mastersounds/Kismet/WP-1243》 recorded in April 1958, and 《A Good Git-Together/Jon Hendricks/WP-1283》 recorded in October 1959, which was his final recording before signing with Riverside Records in September 1959.

In 1957, the label name changed from Pacific Records to World Pacific Records. Album numbers shifted from "PJ (Pacific Jazz)" to "WP (World Pacific)" starting with 《The Mastersounds/Kismet/WP-1243》, although some albums like 《The Montgomery Brothers And Five Others/PJ-1240》 retained the "PJ" prefix because their numbers were assigned before the change. From this point on, Wes's albums bore the World Pacific label.

《The Montgomery Brothers And Five Others/PJ-1240》 was recorded on December 30, 1957, the same day Wes recorded "Finger Pickin'," which appeared on the anthology album 《The Blues Vol 2/Have Blues Will Travel/JWC-509》, released in June 1958. This was part of the [Jazz West Coast Series], which saw 14 albums released between 1953 and 1959. Wes also appeared on 《The Blues Vol 3/Blowin' The Blues/ JWC-512》 and 《The Blues In Stereo/JWC-513》, though these tracks came from albums in the [Pacific Jazz New Series], the successor to the [1200 Series] from 1960 to 1970. This series aimed to revive the original "PJ (Pacific Jazz)" label with a distinctive design and album numbers starting at "PJ-1" for mono and "ST-1" for stereo, continuing up to around "91." After the company's 1965 bankruptcy and sale to Liberty Records, mono albums were renumbered "PJ-100092" and stereo albums "ST-200092," with Liberty changing the label design.

Wes's subsequent releases were peculiar. 《Montgomeryland/Pacific Jazz PJ-5》, recorded in 1958 and 1959, was released in July 1960, a year after Wes signed with Riverside Records.

《Wes Buddy And Monk Montgomery/Pacific Jazz PJ-17》 combined leftover tracks from 1958 and tracks from 《Five Others/ PJ-1240》, released in 1961, showing a lack of vision for Wes's potential.

After the 1965 bankruptcy and Liberty's acquisition, the label saw changes including increased recordings by black artists and rebranding of West Coast jazz artists as easy listening. While some excellent albums were released, true West Coast jazz fans were disenchanted. Stereo technology advancements allowed overdubbing and tape splicing, deceiving fans with over-produced records. A notable example is 《A Portrait of Wes Montgomery/Liberty ST-20137》, featuring posthumously overdubbed strings. Though controversial, it is now appreciated as a product of its time.

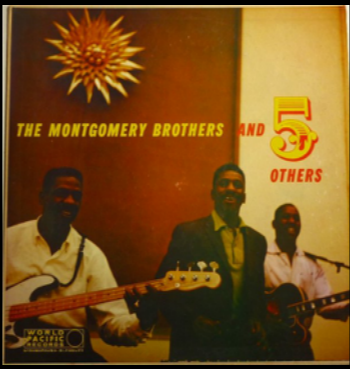
In mid-1957, a session was planned with Wes and his hometown associates, which only materialized in December. Released in June 1958 under the new World Pacific Records name, the album retained the "PJ" prefix, hinting it could have been a Pacific Records release.

The [1200 Series] was succeeded by the [Pacific Jazz New Series] in 1960. After the 1965 bankruptcy and Liberty's acquisition, stereo labels were redesigned and albums renumbered.

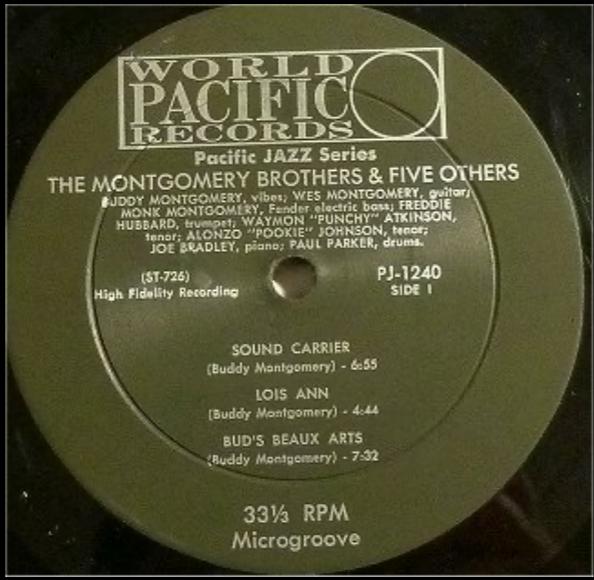
The two DJ albums are from 《Easy Groove/Wes Montgomery》.

The last album Wes released on the World Pacific label was in 1961, with no stereo release or Liberty reissue. These two records, 《A Portrait of Wes Montgomery/Liberty ST-20137》 and the compilation album 《Easy Groove Wes Montgomery/Liberty PJ-10104, ST-20104》, are valuable collections.

The Montgomery Brothers And Five Others



mono record



1st-Original

1.MONO :PJ-1240
2.Groove :[A]

Around mid-1957, while still under the Pacific Records name, a recording session with Wes and his hometown peers was planned. Due to conflicting schedules, they couldn't gather until the Christmas holidays in December. By then, the label had changed its name to World Pacific Records in July 1957, and the album was released in June 1958 with a label reflecting the new name, but retaining the "PJ" prefix.

Have Blues, Will Travel The Blues Vol.2



mono record



1st-Original

1.MONO :JWC-509
2.Groove :[A]

The "JWC (Jazz West Coast)" [Jazz West Coast Series] was a popular niche series since its release, focusing on tracks that couldn't be included in albums or alternate takes. Richard Bock, who had heard about Wes's talent from his brother Monk, had planned a separate release for him. The liner notes indicate that Bock stopped in Indianapolis to record Wes as planned on his way from Chicago to New York. This album was also released in June 1958, the same time as "Five Others/PJ-1240," with a potential Pacific label if recorded earlier.

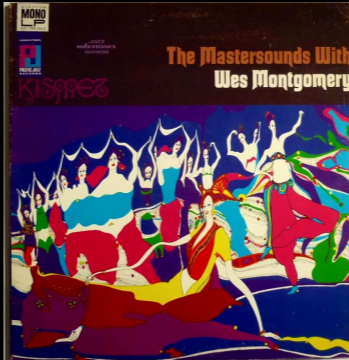
Kismet



MONO



STEREO



LIBERTY

mono record



1st-Original

- 1.MONO :WP-1243
- 2.Groove :[A]

The label is marked as "PJ-1243," but it is considered a misprint.

STEREO record



1st-Original

- 1.STEREO :STEREO-1010
- 2.Groove :[A]

STEREO1010 belongs to the [Early Stereo Series], which primarily reissued MONO albums from the [1200 Series] in stereo until 1960. There are indeed many "series."

LIBERTY record



2nd-mono

- 1.MONO :PJ-10130
- 2.Groove :[D]



2nd-stereo

- 1STEREO :ST-20130
- 2.Groove :[D]

The [1200 Series] released from 1960 was succeeded by the [Pacific Jazz New Series], which continued until 1970. When the company went bankrupt in 1965 and the label was transferred to Liberty Records, the series name was changed to [Jazz Milestones Series], and the label design and some album numbers were altered.

A Good Git-Together/Jon Hendricks



MONO



STEREO

MONO record



1st-Original

- 1.MONO :WP-1283
2.Groove :[A]

STEREO record



1st-Original

- 1.STEREO :STEREO-1283
2.Groove :[A]

STEREO-1283 was released simultaneously with the MONO version from the [1200 Series].

Montgomeryland



MONO



STEREO

MONO record



1st-Original

- 1.MONO :PJ-5
2.Groove :[A]

STEREO record



1st-Original

- 1.STEREO :STEREO-5
2.Groove :[A]



2nd

- 1.STEREO :STEREO-5
2.Groove :[A]



3rd

- 1.STEREO :ST-5
2.Groove :[A]
Earlier Liberty label



3rd

- 1.STEREO :ST-5
2.Groove :[D]
Liberty label

The [1200 Series] released from 1960 was succeeded by the [Pacific Jazz New Series], but when the label was transferred to Liberty Records in 1965, the STEREO label design changed frequently.

DJ record



3rd-DJ

- 1.MONO :PJ-10104 DJ
2.Groove :[A]
Earlier Liberty label



3rd-DJ

- 1.STEREO :ST-20104 DJ
2.Groove :[A]
Earlier Liberty label

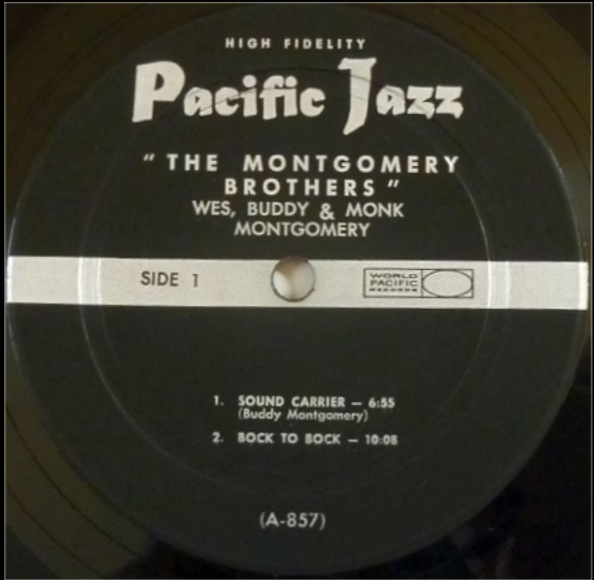
The two DJ albums are from the "Easy Groove/Wes Montgomery" album.

Wes Buddy And Monk Montgomery



MONO

MONO record



1st-Original

- 1.MONO :PJ-17
2.Groove :[A]

he last album released under the World Pacific label in 1961 for Wes. This album has neither a STEREO version nor a reissue from Liberty Records.

World · Pacific Label



These two records were released by Liberty, with the left being "A Portrait of Wes Montgomery/Liberty ST-20137," featuring overdubbed strings. The right is a compilation album, "Easy Groove Wes Montgomery/Liberty PJ-10104; ST-20104," which are must-have collections.

JAPAN



Toshiba EM 1



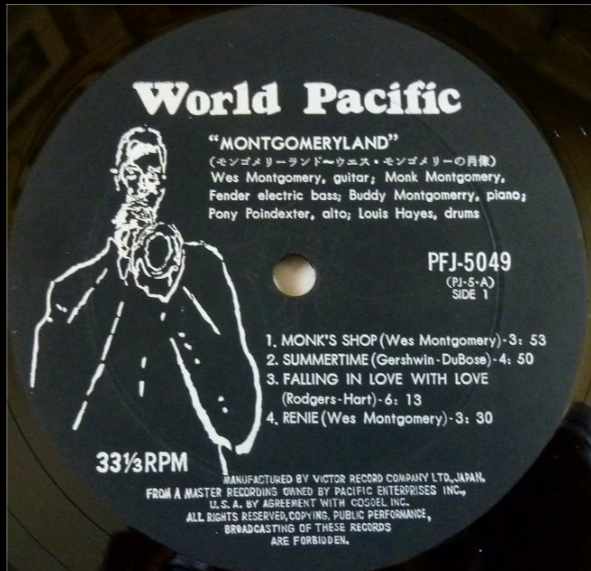
Toshiba EM 1



Toshiba EM 1 sample record



Japan Victor



Japan Victor



King

Other Country



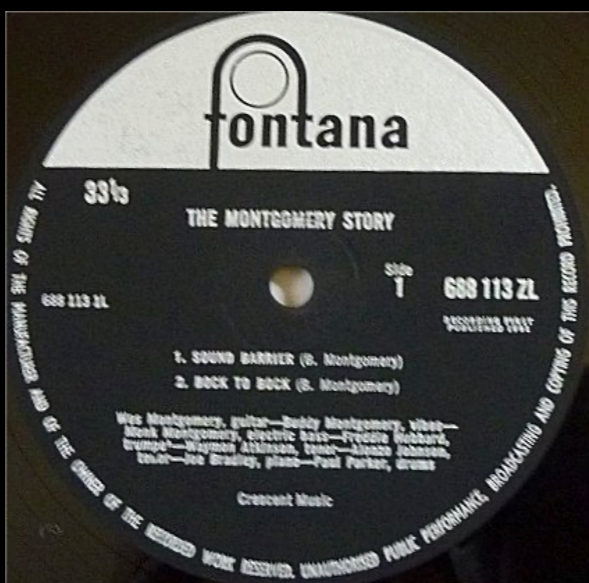
UK



UK



Austraria



Netherlands



Unknown



Unknown