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Put The Needle On The Record: The 1980s At 45 Revolutions Per Minute



Synopsis

In the 1980s, music defined the moment: "Video Killed the Radio Star" ushered in MTV, "Don't You (Forget about Me)" ruled The Breakfast Club, and "I Still Haven't Found What I'm Looking For" became the anthem of a generation. The 1980s were also the most visually provocative era of the last millennium. Every new vinyl single hit the stands wrapped in eye-catching sleeves that reflected the latest trends. Put the Needle on the Record is pop culture historian Matthew Chojnacki's definitive guide to 7- and 12-inch vinyl single artwork from the '80s. He presents and compares more than 250 vinyl single covers, representing nearly every prominent musician of the decade. Read the previously untold stories behind the 1980s' most iconic images from the designers and visual talent behind Madonna, Prince, Adam Ant, Pink Floyd, Queen, The Clash, Pet Shop Boys, Kate Bush, and more. Coupled with exclusive commentary from more than 100 of the '80s biggest musicians, including Annie Lennox, Duran Duran, Run-DMC, Gary Numan, The B-52's, Erasure, OMD, Scorpions, The Knack, and Yoko Ono, this is an authoritative journey back to the songs and images that continue to influence our culture. Contains a foreword by Jake Shears of Scissor Sisters and an afterword by Nick Rhodes of Duran Duran.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

First off, I have a bunch of Schiffer's (the publisher) books on my shelf and they seem to get the most attention when folks come to visit. Their specialty is beautiful books on antiques and collectibles (and pre 1930 phonographs, which are the titles I've bought before.). This volume brings them at least into the late 20th century and, again, they've produced a volume full of great color

photos. When author Matthew Chojnacki chose a publisher for his well-researched volume on 1980s 45rpm record covers (both 7inch and the large 12-inch ones used by DJs - BEFORE they turned to MP3s), he made the right choice. This book is - as the common phrase goes - "Totally 80s". But the covers shown are not totally common. Delving into his own collection the author has chosen more than 250 covers and arranged them, one to a page on facing pages to show the similarities of many of them from diverse artists. On page 124-125 you have Tina Turner striking a pose on the left page while Toni Basil strikes a similar pose on the right. But the "attitudes" are different, Pages 148-149 show two 12-incher jackets - one by Timex Social Club and the other by Club Nouveau - which look like they were done by the same artist but they aren't. And page 218-219 matches up Rod Stewart (from "Young Turks" 1981) with Limahl ("The Never ending Story") from three years later, copping Stewart's spiked hairdoo and almost the same eyes. My favorite is the Kate Bush/ Dolly Parton mashup on pages 22 and 23. Parton's 1982 cover looks like it's from the 1960s, even though it's two years more recent than Bush's. Each page has a bit of info about each artist, which helps because many did not have huge hits.

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