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The 45rpm Phono Gazette

RP-190-1 Changer with 'See Through' Spindle Cap

By Phil Vourtsis

No matter what you collect, it's always a treat to find something with an unusual feature. Obviously the person who sold me this changer on Ebay had no idea that the transparency of the spindle cap was of any importance. But this is only the third one of these I have ever seen and it is the first I was able to acquire. The changer is an earlier model made in 1950. The gold ring on the turntable is a good indication that it is early, but you can always check the date code underneath the changer. In this case it is '040' where the first digit is the year (1950), and the last two digits are the week of manufacture (40th week). Rp-190 changers started manufacture in 1950.

RP-190 record changer with rarely found 'see through' spindle cap.

Top view of 'see through' spindle cap.

The unit needed the usual repairs, rubber parts and a cartridge. A word of caution about spindle caps in general. They tend to get brittle with age so be careful not to over-tighten the two mounting screws that attach it to the spindle. Just 'snug up' the screws. You wouldn't want to crack that 'see through' spindle cap!

Another interesting thing about early rp-190 changer cabinets is that some use metal bracing as shown in figure 3. After a while the Bakelite mold was beefed up in the area where the brackets are so that the metal brackets were no longer needed.

Changer base with early metal supports.

Subscription Renewal

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THE 45 RPM PHONO GAZETTE

Challenge #2

I challenge all of you out there to come up with a design that would push the idler away from the motor shaft on the rp-168 record changer.

Figure 1

Winner- The winner is William Bosco, again! Willie was the only one who came up with a solution and it is such a simple solution. By using the motion of the tonearm being moved to it's rest position, a string pulls the idler wheel away from the motor shaft. There is one change in operating procedure when starting and using the record changer however. Normally you would turn on the unit by rotating the on/off/vol switch to on and push the reject button. Since the idler wheel is now disengaged from the motor, the turntable will not spin when power is applied. Since the reject button depends on the rotation of the turntable to start the reject cycle, it will not trip. You must remove the tonearm from the rest position and move it toward the turntable until the turntable starts to rotate. Then the reject button will work. Also note that this solution works for early model rp-168s that have the lever which provides a tie point for the string (see figure 2). Later model rp-168s did away with this lever so some type of adaptor would have to be installed in order to pull the idler wheel away from the motor shaft.

So Willie wins another lifetime subscription to the 45 rpm Phono Gazette! That's pretty useless, so I will have to think of a more appropriate prize. Stay tuned.

Figure 2

Figure 3

The 45rpm Phono Gazette

What a concept for 1963, 12 inch 45's

THOSE 45 LPs

By John Milder

High-speed stereo has rave reviews and wide publicity, but will it last?

EARLY LAST FALL, an excited young man burst into EI's exhibition room at the New York Hi-Fi Show. "I hear," he blurted out, "that the next big thing in hi-fi will be 45-rpm stereo. Is it true?"

"It might be true," we told him, "and then again it might not be. Come back in a year or so and we can be more definite."

The important fact right now is that the 45-rpm speed, supposedly eliminated in the great hi-fi Speed Trials of more than a decade ago, is back in the race as a vehicle for serious music. The reason lies with two small record companies which have simultaneously come up with the idea of making a large-size 45—a standard 12-inch long-playing record.

The first 45 stereo LP's to be released have caused a stir in hi-fi circles, particularly among buffs with top-quality stereo systems. They have received bundles of publicity and the record critics (including EI's Warren DeMatte) have given them unqualified rave reviews, especially the discs put out by the Connoisseur Society. But whether the 45 LP is here to stay or just a flash in the hi-fi pan isn't yet clear.

The 45-rpm speed has never been dead. But it has remained the vehicle for pop singles by Elvis and Fabian and the other teen-age heroes. It has been dead so far as classical music is concerned. Its short playing time was the fatal flaw, since the 33⅓-rpm record could handle the same musical material without annoying interruptions.

Back in 1948, when the 7-inch 45 made its appearance to battle the equally-new 33, the only listeners who considered it a serious rival did so on the basis of sound. Neither competitor offered anything approaching today's sound quality, but the 45 sounded *fairly* good, while the 33 was plain atrocious. It didn't take long, of course, for the 33 to improve.

Now the 45 has come back to offer some advantages over the 33. The 33's natural limit on high-frequency response on its inner grooves (every record has such a limit) forces recording companies to use a varying amount of pre-emphasis on the highs, in addition to normal RIAA equalization. The combination sometimes produces a nerve-jangling peak in the highs when the arm nears the spindle. The 45 LP requires no pre-emphasis because on its inside grooves it has almost twice the undoctored high-frequency potential of the standard LP.

But more important for the 45 is the open and transparent quality of its sound—due largely to the extra room provided for engraving music in its grooves. Put another way, the sound contained in one inch of a 45's groove must be crammed into 33/45ths of an inch on the 33 disc. A 45 plays about 23 minutes per side, fully as long as the average 33.

The better quality of sound you get on a 45 is apparent on a wide range (price-wise) of stereo equipment. The question is whether enough hi-fi record fans will value the increase in quality enough to become buyers.

The two current 45-LP producers are New York firms, the Connoisseur Society and Quarante-Cinq (that's "45" in French) Records. All together, they have released nine albums. The Quarante-Cinq discs are priced at $5.95, the Connoisseurs at $6.95, altogether discounting is likely in most areas. The standard LP lists at $5.98.

Connoisseur Society releases:

Quarante-Cinq releases:

Popular Electronics May 1963 issue

Want List

The 45rpm Phono Gazette

Bob Becker
(201.391.2971)
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 preferred
8EY4DJ gray plastic front with lid
Decca blk/red portable 45 player

Joe Centanni
(585.230.1539)
1667 Waterford Road
Walworth, NY 14568
s100x@rochester.rr.com
VM Stereo 45 player
Magnavox 45 player

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 seven
Outer concentric radio/phono knob for Emerson 635

Dennis D'Amico
11892 Pine Street
Los Alamitos, CA 90720-4163
Looking for Zenith Twin Seven parts

Bill Gourd
(989-832-2934)
1024 West Park Drive
Midland, Michigan 48640
In priority order:
8EY4, 7HF45 (wood case)
8HF45P (portable)
4Y511 (radio/phono)
9Y510 or 9Y511 (radio/phono)
6BY4

Hank Granse
(360-871-9014)
6751 View Dr. SE
Port Orchard, WA 98367
hgranse@ispwest.com

Bob Green
(570-366-3949)
1711 Breezy Acres Rd
Orwigsburg, PA 17961
rcgreen@schmobile.com
Record Demonstrator
RCA Children's records

Doug Houston
(810-627-4141)
3441 South Hadley
Ortonville, Michigan 48462
HoustonD@tacom.army.mil

Ron Jeff
30 Devonshire Terrace
Flanders, NJ 07836
973-584-1007
6JY1C with green base

Bob Kolba
817-294-9942
5950 Forest Highlands DriveFort Worth, Texas 76132
Rkolba0211@aol.com

John Lee
1658 E. 5th St.
Ontario, CA 91764-2202
nipper45@verison.net
Can scan other character model decal in exchange for Snow White.

John Ortale
(203-754-8346)
44 Barden Street
Waterbury, CT 06706
ortl@aol.com
Early Disney models

Tom Paruta
(716) 837-8131
43 Flower St.
Buffalo, NY
TomTMP58@aol.com
Zenith model T545 radio/phono.
Zenith twin seven (G660) or "Dartmouth" console with twin 7

Bob Reck
(410)647-1849484
Botteford Court,
Severna Park, MD

Dan Saporito
8 – 5th Ave
Ortley Beach, NJ 08731

Doug Robinson
2609S. 800E.
Salt Lake, Utah 84106
Doug45rpm@hotmail.com
Looking for gray spindlecap

John Sportelli
(619-296-2422)
3753 Herbert Street
San diego, CA 92103
john.sportelli@cubic.com
Set of knobs for RCA radio/phono models 9Y51, or 9Y510

Ray Tyner
(614-475-1697)
4709 Wendler Blvd
Columbus Ohio 43230-1642
rcray45rpm@msn.com
Birch 45 player, Steelman 45 player

Chambers Williams
(817-446-0346)
9423 Marsh Creek
San Antonio, Texas 78250

Rex North
(937-368-3060)
5333 Alcony-Conover Road
Conover, Ohio 45317
Looking for spare idler and cam.

Services

Willie Bosco
707.923.3897
1588 Miller Creek Rd.
Garberville, CA 95542
williambosco@msn.com
"Lowrider" replacement cartridges available

Paul Childress
6632 W. Denny Ct.
Chesterfield, VA 23832
804-271-7842
pchildress@prodigy.net
Players repaired and rebuilt

Bob Havalack
(585-458-0801)
44 Backus St (2nd fl)
Rochester, NY 14608
ebm21@frontiernet.net
Will repair/rebuild players.
Specialize in car 45 player rebuilds.
Idler and Cam rebuilding

V-M Audio Enthusiasts
(248-478-0990) eves/wkends
37530 E. Meadowhill
Northville, MI 48167
gstork@concentric.net
www.thevoiceofmusic.com
Repair parts including both V-M and RCA 45 players.

Phil Vourtsis
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13 Cornell Place
Manalapan, NJ 07726
pvourtsis@att.com
Books signed by author
The Fabulous Victrola '45'
Schiffer Publishing LTD.
29.95 plus $4 shipping

Vintage Electronics
128 Buccaneer Drive
Hattiesburg, MS 39402
601.264.4755
phonoed@aol.com
www.vintageelectronics.com
Rebuilding Service
Idlers, cams, cartridges

West Tech Services
570 Hazelgreen Road
Smithville, WV 26178
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Idlers, cams, cartridges

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c/o Echo-Tone Music
991 Genesee Park Blvd
Rochester, NY 14619
Croonin@frontiernet.net
Repair/restore service