

The 45rpm Phono Gazette

WILLIAMS MUSIC MITE JUKEBOX



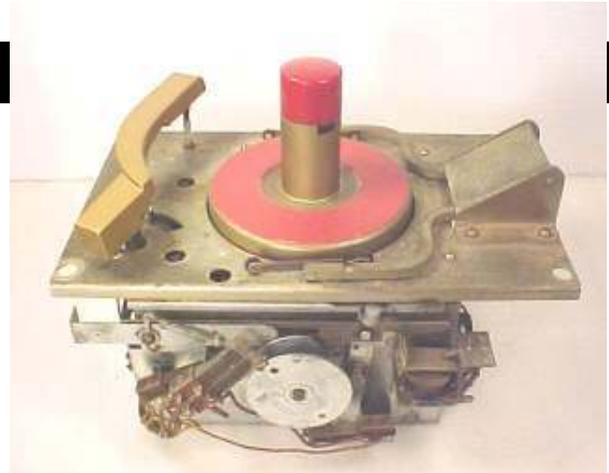
By Willie Bosco

The only juke ever made by the pinball giant Williams, brought on the market in 1951. Only 10 selections, quite normal for a table-top model. Dimensions are 13x 20x 13 inches (20 = height) . Weight 58 lbs. with records. 1500 units were made.

I was 6 years old when these were made and after seeing the pictures in Phil's Fabulous 45 book, I knew I wanted one.

I bought this Music Mite off ebay a few years ago and just got around to rebuilding it. This was a challenge for sure as it has so many contacts, relays and light bulbs to go over.

The changer is the RCA rp-168 that has been modified with the motor/gear driven record lift. The speaker is 8 inch, amp has 3 tubes, 6X4, 6AT6 and 6V6. The amp only needed one resistor changed. The changer was a mess and had to be cleaned and adjusted with new motor mounts and idler wheel.



45 Changer top and bottom views

I bought a new contact burnisher which got a real workout. I went thru a complete box of number 44 bayonet bulbs, too.

I downloaded a free template for the song title strips. This unit is complete with plastic cover, coin box and back.

I've always wanted a jukebox, so this is a dream come true. It's fun to drop nickels into the slot and watch and hear the action as your selection is chosen and played, all with a light telling which record is now playing. More pics on page 3.

After 8 years Willie is selling his successful, web based, phono business. Serious inquires call 707.923.3897

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Send to Phil Vourtsis, 13 Cornell Place, Manalapan, NJ, 07726 or you can use Paypal (Account is pvoirtsis@optonline.net, no credit cards please)

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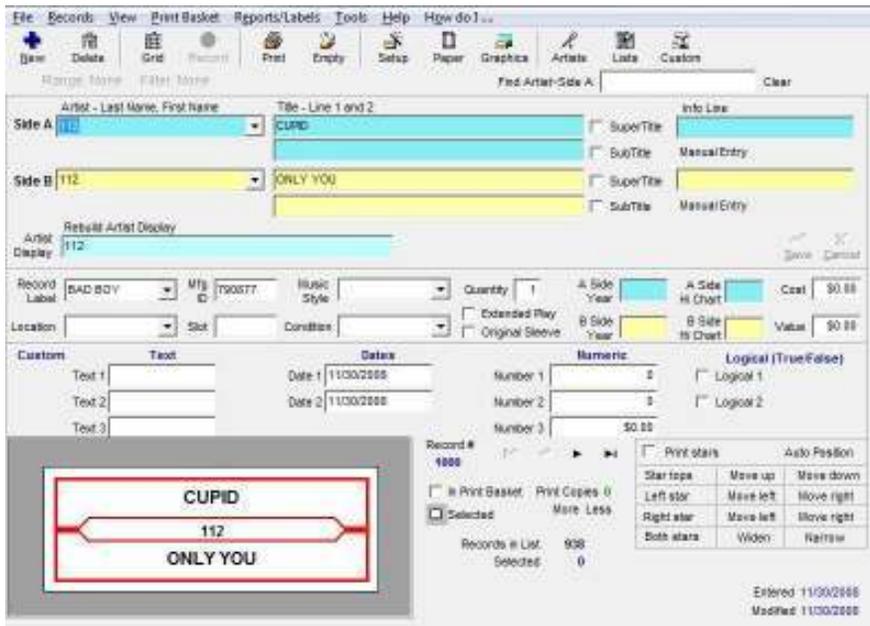
Bridging The Gap – Old Cool meets New Cool

By Howard Cohen

Part 1

Thousands of 45s, Two Jukeboxes and many, many RCA 45 RPM phonographs later, I wanted to take my collecting obsession to the next level. I had several goals in mind:

1. Cataloging my 45 RPM collection to better organize it



2. Improving the sound that came out of the Jukes and the phonographs
3. Find an efficient method of digitally recording the songs I wanted to archive and make portable

45 RPM Record Cataloging

After creating my own software database, I decided that there must be software out there that someone else had created. I searched the internet and over again the searches came up with Jukebox5 from Low Profile software. It had cataloging features, reporting and did everything including creating a large variety of title strips for my Jukeboxes. The user interface is straight forward and has an import feature that I have used more than once to get data from other collections into mine.

Improving the Sound

After all the work and money that goes into Jukebox and Phonograph restoration, it is hard to compare them with their modern counter parts. Even with clean and fairly scratch free records, the sound from the Amps or through a vintage radio does not provide the same sound quality, volume or control as is available now. While some of the phonograph offerings sound quite good (i.e EY-4, HY-4) they are still lacking. The trick to improving the sound quality and control is to connect these units up to modern sound producing technology. As I am in the computer field, my computer was my 1st choice. I worked with 45-J-2s.. By plugging the 45-J-2 into a pre-amp and then some cable adapters, available

from RadioShack, the changer unit will connect through one of the computers sound input Jacks. Once connected to the computer the sound will be generated through whatever sound card and speaker setup that your computer is configured with. In my case I have an external USB Live24Bit sound source from creative Labs attached to 5 surround sound speakers. It's got volume, an equalizer and other bells and whistles common to modern computer sound. There is still the slight popping or clicking from the record but, as all of you know, once the record starts playing one of your "oldies but goodies", sentiment makes this disappear.

Recording the Sound

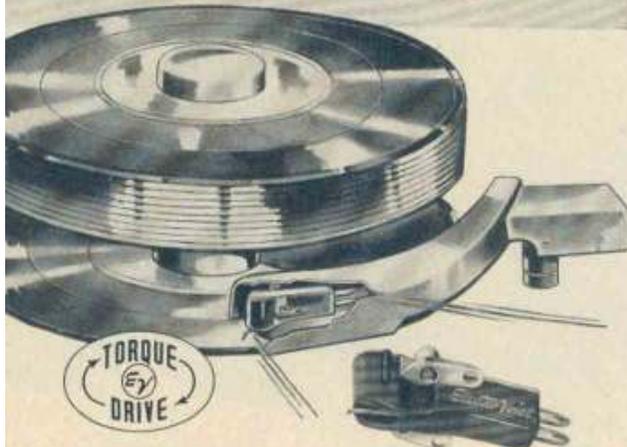
Once your phonograph is attached to your PC there are several options for recording and editing the sound. Windows has built in tools for the recording part but some editing is almost always required. For badly damaged records you are going to want to remove pops and clicks. Even for well preserved records some superfluous noise can be removed if desired. One program that is easy to use and fairly feature rich is 'Spin It Again'. It works well for recording and provides many options for editing, cleaning, converting and modifying quality/size of the final output. The program will allow the recording of multiple records at a time, so it is perfect for the RCA 45-J-2 with 15 records stacked or a Jukebox once you get them attached to the PC. Once the record is recorded you are prompted to divide the recording into tracks. It will use the silence between records to determine the start and end of a track. Each track can then be edited using the numerous editing features. While my sons still prefer direct downloading to their iPods off of the internet, I love the process of giving new life and portability to my cherished 45s. Plus I get to listen to them during the process.

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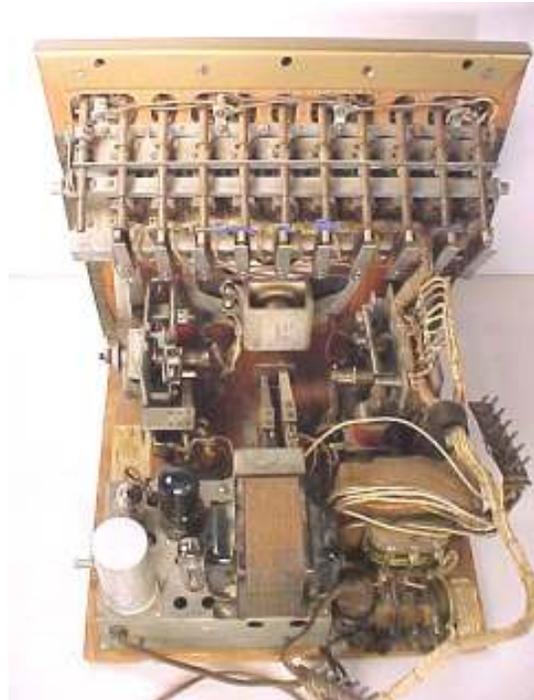
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