

Frank Sinatra Conducts Music of Alec Wilder

12" 78 RPM Albums

Label 39Cg

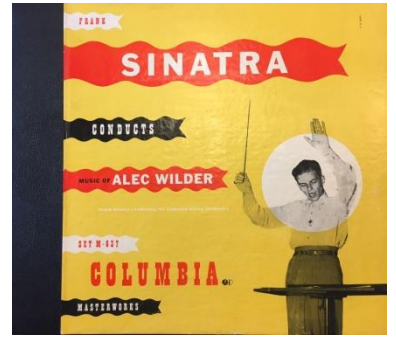
Mono

M-637

Green label with Columbia notes and CBS microphone at top.

Under COLUMBIA is written a two-line patent and trademark statement. The only patent mentioned by number is 1,702,564.

First appearance in *Billboard*: December 21, 1946



This release is known with two inside back covers. These inner covers were released in the following order:

1. The bottom cover in the second column is M-559, *Music of George Gershwin*. At the bottom is a description of Columbia's lamination process. The liner shows the manufacturer as Columbia Recording Corporation.
2. The bottom cover in the second column is MM-632, *Music of Jerome Kern*. These copies date after April, 1947, since the manufacturer name has been changed to Columbia Records, Inc.



FRANK SINATRA CONDUCTS MUSIC OF ALEC WILDER (Columbia M-637)

The Voice proves a versatile one, wielding a baton over the Columbia String Orchestra, augmented with woodwind soloists and harpsichords to introduce the mood tone poems of Alec Wilder. Instead of the futuristic jazz themes that Wilder originally introduced almost a decade ago with an unorthodox instrumentation, these are entirely classical themes in the style of the old masters with the intrusion of dance rhythms, but entirely in the serious chamber music mood. Frank Sinatra's capacities as a stick-waver with such serious intent unquestionably means more in attracting attention to this set of six pieces that might otherwise pass almost unnoticed. His understanding of the music is matched by the musicianship of the instrumentalists, making it a happy combination for all, altho it must be suspected that many purchases will be made on the feeling that they are popular pieces with the Voice on vocals, and for these the serious Sinatra will hardly be acceptable. Spinning on 12-inches, four of the sides are solo impressions, all skillfully scored and played, including *Air for Oboe*, *Air for Bassoon*, *Air for Flute* and *Air for English Horn*. The remaining two sides are entirely orchestral, including *Slow Dance* and *Theme and Variations*, both of which are heavily touched with dance rhythms. Front cover shows Frankie on the podium, with copious—and almost apologetic—notes on the inside page by Goddard Lieberson, label's vice-prexy in charge of Masterwork cuttings.

10" LP Albums

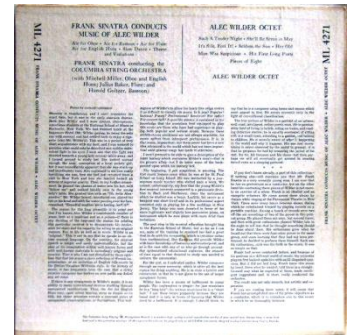
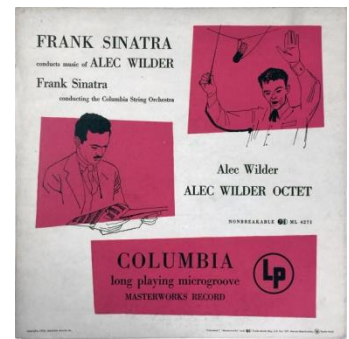
Label 48g

Mono

ML-4271

Green label with "long playing" and "microgroove" at the bottom

First appearance in *Billboard*: March 18, 1950



In early 1950, Columbia Records collected the six songs that Sinatra had conducted, together with six more songs from the Alec Wilder Octet (Columbia set C-60), into a single LP.

12" LP Albums

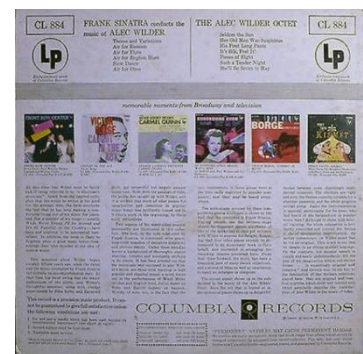
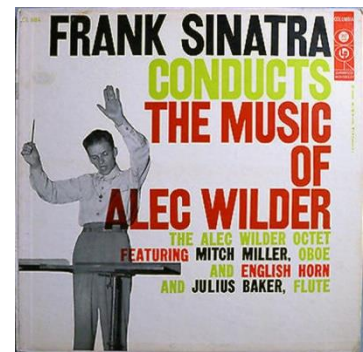
Label 55

Mono

CL-884

Red label with six camera/eye logos.

Reviewed in *Billboard*: August 18, 1956



This album is known in only one pressing. However, that pressing is found with one of several back cover slicks, each showing different Columbia LP's.

These are:

- memorable moments from Broadway and television
- romantic melodies played by great conductors
- brilliant popular vocals by great singing artists
- toe-tickling dance music by great popular orchestras



Odyssey Label 67
Rechanneled Stereo 32-16-0262
 Dull red label with Odyssey logo at left.
 Released c. December, 1968.

