

“The Ballad of John and Yoko”/“Old Brown Shoe”

Label ac1

Apple

2531

Apple label with Capitol logo (subsidiary) print on the sliced side.

Thin, round print (ac1S).

First appearance in trade magazines: June 7, 1969



Factories: Scranton, Southern Plastics?

Bold print from a template at the LA plant (ac1L).



Factories: Scranton, Los Angeles, Southern Plastics?

Picture sleeve PS1A (east coast):

The sleeve is cut straight across the top on both sides.

The open side has “Ballad of John and Yoko” at the top.

Picture sleeve PS1B (west coast):

The sleeve is curve cut.

The curved side has “Ballad of John and Yoko” at the top.



The Beatles will stir controversy and business with the biographical “The Ballad of John and Yoko” (Maclen, BMI). Compelling (Apple 2531).

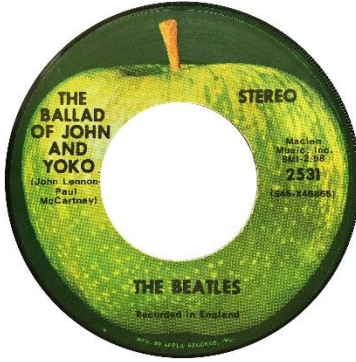


BEATLES—THE BATTLE OF JOHN & YOKO

(Writers: Lennon-McCartney) (Maclen, BMI)—Regardless of the controversy over this single, it will undoubtedly follow right in the footsteps of “Get Back” from a sales standpoint. The story of John and Yoko is set to the same driving beat of their current chart topper. Flip featuring George, also offers much potential. Flip: “Old Brown Shoe” (Harrisonsongs, BMI). Apple 2531

Label af1

Apple 2531
Apple label with "MFD. BY APPLE" on the full side
Factory: Scranton, Jacksonville
Round print
Factory: Los Angeles
Later copies have "MFD. BY APPLE" on both sides. Round print
Factory: Winchester
Unique print.
Copies pressed in 1974-5 have "Mastered by Capitol" in the matrix.



Label ar1

Apple 2531
Apple label with rights information on one or both sides.
Factory: Los Angeles ar1L
Rights information appears at the bottom right on the A-side label.



Label 72r

Capitol 2531
Orange label with rights disclaimer
Factory: Los Angeles
This doesn't really exist; there are no known orange-label copies.



Label 78

Capitol 2531
Purple label with large logo; rim text starts with "MFD."
Factory: Los Angeles
With "TIME" on label
Factory: Winchester
Without "TIME" on label



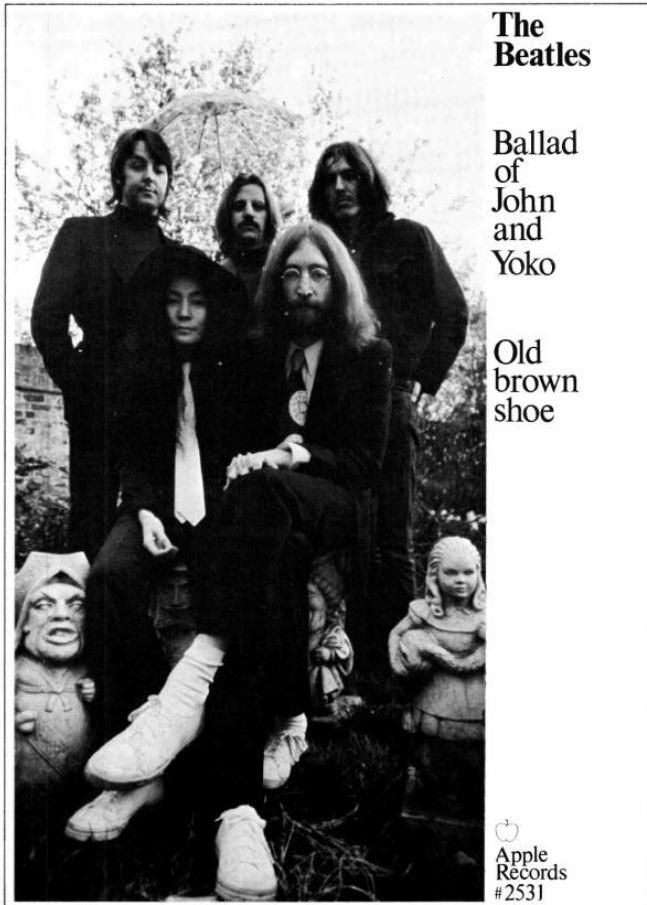
Label 83

Capitol 2531
Rainbow label with rim print in color band.
Factories: Los Angeles, Winchester, Specialty



Label 88

Capitol 2531
Purple label with small logo; rim text starts with "MANUFACTURED."
Factory: Specialty



**Beatles' Single
Stirs Storm—
Anti-Christ?**

NEW YORK—The Beatles released a controversial single this week which mentions Christ in a manner considered blasphemous by some critics. The Apple disk, "The Ballad of John and Yoko," has been banned by a flock of radio stations including ABC-owned and operated WLS in Chicago, and WABC in New York. However, WCFL in Chicago, is giving it heavy play, and WNEW-FM in New York, made no objection to the disk.

WMCA in New York banned it. In banning the disk from WABC, Rick Sklar, program director, said that it's not being played "because I'd be talking to more moneysignors in two minutes than I've talked to all year."

The new Cowsills, single "The Prophecy of Daniel and John the Divine," on MGM Records, may soon be stirring a controversy, too. It deals with the destruction of the world as predicted in the Bible. On the upbeat side of the religious coin is Frankie Laine's new ABC single, "Dammit Isn't God's Last Name."

The Beatles' and Cowsills' disks were Top 20 picks and Laine's single was a Top 60 choice of Billboard's review panel this week.

Picks of the Week

THE BEATLES (Apple 2531)
The Ballad of John & Yoko (2:58) (Maclen, BMI — Lennon, McCartney)
The usual race to air a new Beatles record has not greeted this side; but fans are nevertheless seeking "The Ballad of John & Yoko." Mixed programmer reaction is the result of 'objectionable' lyrics, but musically the side is an exciting old-Elvis flavored track with other 50's touches. In-store hit despite its difficulties. Flip: "Old Brown Shoe" (3:17) (Harrisonsongs, BMI — Harrison)