

“Happy Xmas (War is Over)”/“Listen, the Snow is Falling”

First appearance in trade magazines: December 11, 1971

Label aw1dj

Apple

S45X-47663/S45X-47664

White label with black print

Print reads “not for sale” and “for radio station play only.”



Factories: New York pressing

The rush release of promotional copies led to some radio stations feeling left out.

Label f1

Apple

1842

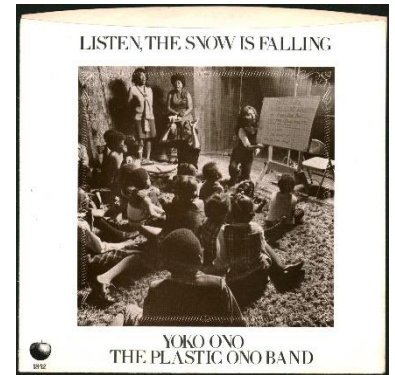
Custom label with white Apple logo at the bottom.



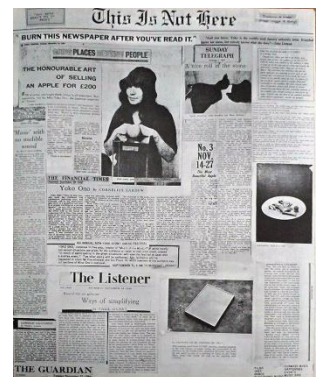
Factories: Los Angeles; Jacksonville; Winchester

The A-side song title follows John’s and Yoko’s 1969 “War is Over” campaign.

Iain McMillan’s label design came at the direction of Yoko herself, after McMillan had prepared the “blended” photographs as part of promotional artwork for Yoko’s (and John’s) “This is Not Here” retrospective – which took place at the Emerson Museum of Art in Syracuse in October. They decided to make the artwork into a label design, used here and on two other releases.



HOUSTON—Several radio stations here last week put a damper on all current Apple Records product in protest of KILT, the leading Top 40 station with a majority of audience ratings, being given an exclusive on John Lennon’s “Happy Xmas” featuring John & Yoko and the Plastic Ono Band. KNUZ, KPRC, KRILY-FM, and KLOL-FM were among the stations who cut back on new Apple product “for a while.” Several stations were on the phone with each other.

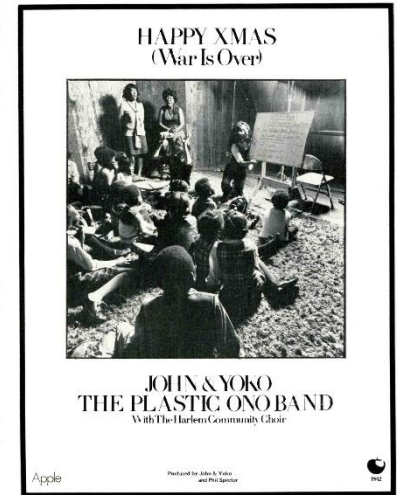


Label af1

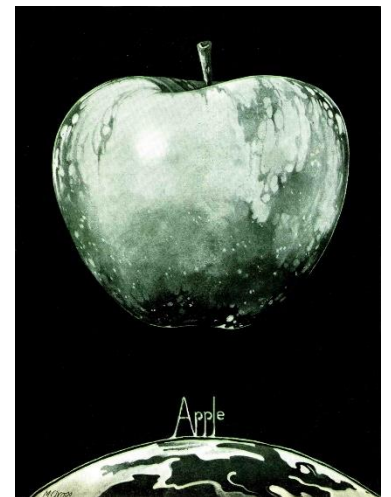
Apple

1842

Apple label with "MFD. BY APPLE" on the full side.
Issued 1972, 1973, and 1974.



Label af1J (Jacksonville) has thin print.



Label af1L (Los Angeles) has "War is Over" on one line.



Label af1W (Winchester) has "John & Yoko" on one line.

All three pressing plants used a festive green vinyl. However, as the machines swapped out green vinyl for this release and black vinyl for other records, they pressed copies of this single (by error) that have flecks of black vinyl swirled in with the green vinyl.

Another promotional design that John and Yoko released for their Christmas (1971) campaign was a doctored image of the Statue of Liberty showing her with a raised fist instead of a torch. They included the same image in their *Some Time in New York City* album in 1972, using the album title as a caption instead of the Christmas message.



Label 72r

Capitol 1842
Orange label with "all rights reserved" disclaimer.



Factories: MCA Pinckneyville

Label 78

Capitol 1842
Purple label with "MFD. BY CAPITOL" rim print.



Factories: Los Angeles, Winchester



Factory: Jacksonville

Label 83

Capitol 1842

Black rainbow label with print in the color band

The publishing credit for the A-side is co-claimed by MacLen Music – as on the earlier pressings.

Factories: Los Angeles, Jacksonville, Winchester; Specialty (later)



Label 83a

Capitol 1842

Black rainbow label with print in the color band

The publishing credit for the A-side is co-claimed by Blackwood Music.

This release came out

Factories: Specialty



Label 83

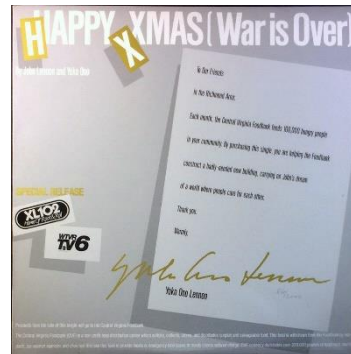
Capitol SPRO-9894

Black rainbow label with print in the color band
Released promotionally in 1985.

"Happy Xmas" appears on both sides.

White vinyl.

Factories: Specialty



Label f1

Capitol SPRO-9929/30

Gray "faces" label with Capitol logo

Released promotionally in 1986.

White vinyl.



Label 88

Capitol

1842

Purple label with "MANUFACTURED BY CAPITOL" rim print.



Factories: Specialty

Label 88

Capitol/Cema

S7-17644

Purple label with "MANUFACTURED BY CAPITOL" rim print.

Green vinyl. Released 1993.



Factories: Specialty

In October 1980 – just before John’s death – the US Postal Service released one of their series of Christmas stamps. The stamp shown, coincidentally, has Scott catalog number 1842 – the same number as the Apple single.

