

Wings at the Speed of Sound Wings

First appearance in trade magazines: April 3, 1976

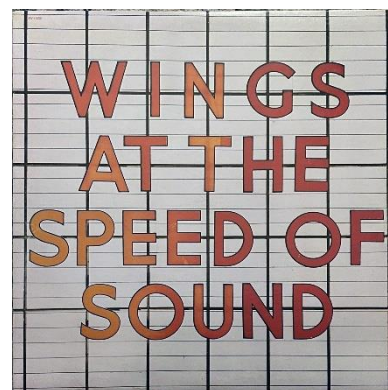
Label 76 dj

Capitol

SW-11525

White label with black print

Capitol did not mark promotional copies of the album, but copies having all-white labels were used for promotional purposes.



Label c76

Capitol

SW-11525

Custom label



The LP was pressed by all three Capitol pressing plants.

Capitol To Release New Wings Album

LOS ANGELES—"Wings At The Speed Of Sound," the fifth Wings album, will be released by Capitol Records Inc. on March 25, announced Bhaskar Menon, CRI chairman, president and chief executive officer. Wings, which includes Paul and Linda McCartney, Denny Laine, Jimmy McCulloch and Joe English, is currently touring Denmark, Germany, Holland and France on the third leg of their 1976 World tour, which concludes on March 26 in Paris.

"Wings At The Speed Of Sound" contains songs written by Paul and Linda McCartney as well as Jimmy McCulloch and Denny Laine. "Wino Junko" was written by Jimmy McCulloch and Colin Allen, and "Time To Hide" was penned by Denny Laine. All other songs on the album were written by Paul and Linda McCartney.

"Wings At The Speed Of Sound" was produced by Paul McCartney and recorded by Wings at the Abbey Road Studios in London. The album cover photo was done by Linda McCartney, with the back cover photo by Clive Arrowsmith.

ALBUMS

WINGS, "AT THE SPEED OF SOUND." Long-awaited is almost an understatement. And with a first-ever U.S. tour about to get underway, demand for the Wings' latest should exceed all past efforts. Denny Laine takes some very successful lead vocals, but the show is very much Mr. Paul McCartney's as writer, producer, musician and vocalist. Capitol SW-11525 (6.98).



WINGS-Speed Of Sound, Capitol SW-11525. Good, solid album of individual songs which works much better than McCartney's concept "Venus & Mars" set. Package of ballads, easy rock and a couple of genuine rockers marks the strongest attempt yet to get the entire group involved, with McCartney singing lead on six cuts, Denny Laine on two and other group members getting one each. Simple horns augment a few of the cuts, strings a few others, but songs for the most part feature the basic band with no long solos. Strong jazz feel in spots as well. The album is a sneaky one in a way, because first listen does not find any real standouts. The key, however, is a steadiness that sees the LP running on an even keel. There are no immediate standouts because all of the material is good. Best features include a screaming McCartney vocal on "Beware My Love," which is in the "Maybe I'm Amazed" vein and is probably his strongest rocker since that song. "Warm & Beautiful" is one of his patented love ballads that should become a standard, while "Silly Love Songs" is a marvelous disco cut with uptempo vocals. Denny Laine does his best singing since he did "Go Now" with the Moody Moody Blues on his "Time To Hide." All in all, a basic, understated set that may rank with "Jet" as one of the band's best efforts.

Best cuts: "She's My Baby," "Beware My Love," "Silly Love Songs," "Time To Hide," "Warm & Beautiful," "Cook Of The House" (infectious, creditable '50s sound with Linda singing lead).

Dealers: McCartney is one of the real stars of pop. First U.S. tour with group set for this spring.



Inner Sleeve

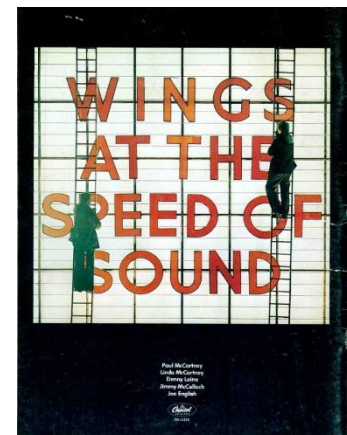
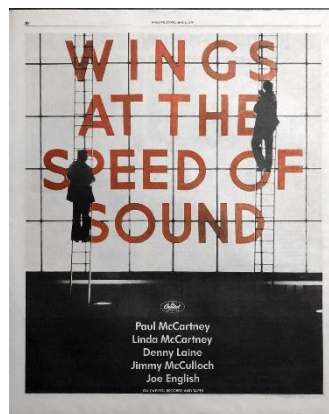
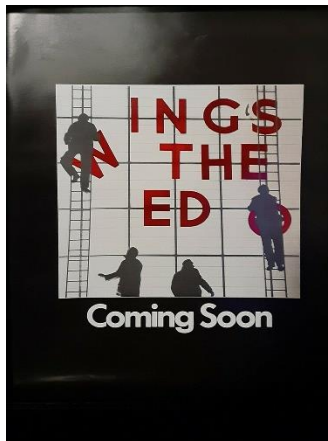


Wings Tour Set; LP Gold On Release

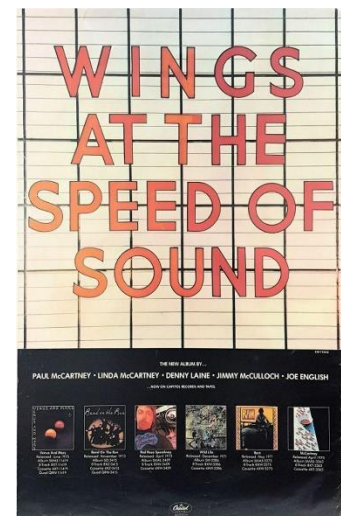
■ LOS ANGELES—Wings begins its first American tour on April 8 at Fort Worth, Texas, the first of 31 performances to be held in 20 major markets ending with two performances at Madison Square Garden on May 24-25. The concert appearances, which will be Paul McCartney's first in the U.S. in almost 10 years, were announced as Capitol released the group's new album, "Wings At The Speed Of Sound" on March 25. The lp was certified gold on release.

Promotion

The album's release was preceded by advertisements announcing its release.



In addition, Capitol prepared a poster showing the Paul/Wings catalog.



About the Graphics

Linda McCartney took several photographs of the marquee at the Leicester Square Theatre as they prepared the text which indicated the title of the album. One such photo appears on the front cover, while another cover (showing the letters being placed) appears on the labels.

The back cover contains a montage of photographs that Clive Arrowsmith prepared. Arrowsmith had taken the cover photograph for *Band on the Run*. Together the concept was organized by Hipgnosis and George Hardie, who had worked on *Venus and Mars*.

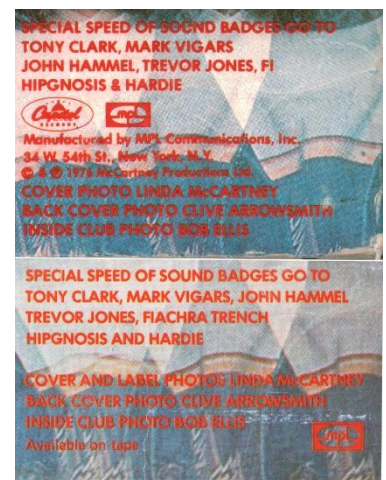
More of Linda's photographs appeared on the rear side of the inner sleeve, along with her signature. Meanwhile, "official" photographer, Bob Ellis, had taken a photograph of Wings in concert – possibly in Sydney (Australia) on November 13, 1975. Artist Humphrey Ocean drew an image of a fictional "Speed of Sound" club to surround the photograph – as though Wings were playing at a venue with that name. Outside the club, Ocean added a set of bouncers. These were Ian Dury and members of his current band, Kilburn and the High-Roads. You see, Dury had been an art teacher at the Canterbury College of Art, and Ian Dury was one of his teachers.

Difference between US and UK Album Art

In the bottom right corner of the back cover, we see that Capitol changed the credits in two places. First, the credit to Fiachra Trench (who taught Linda McCartney how to play the piano, and who arranged "The Note You Never Wrote" and "Warm and Beautiful") was shortened on American copies to read simply "FI." In addition, John Hammel's name was moved from the first line of credits to the second, and the word "and" was replaced by an Ampersand (&).

The other significant credit change appears in the lower block of text. Instead of "Cover and label photos Linda McCartney," Capitol dropped the label credit.

These aren't the most striking alterations, however. Capitol's art department took two of the five lines of photos on the back cover – the ones showing Denny Laine and Jimmy McCulloch, and photo-reversed them. Instead of Denny smiling on the left side (UK), he smiles on the right side (US). The photos of Paul, Linda, and Joe remain as they were on the UK cover art.



Columbia Signs Paul McCartney

NEW YORK — Paul McCartney and Wings have signed a recording contract with Columbia Records, capping months of intensive negotiations and industry speculation.

Although specific terms of the reported multi-million dollar deal were not revealed, the contract is believed to be one of the largest ever signed by a recording artist.

Lee Eastman, an attorney who represents McCartney, stated that the contract includes the transfer of McCartney's Capitol Records catalog to Columbia Records in staggered stages, "when the distribution rights for the albums run out. The first catalog albums are set to be transferred to Columbia by the end of 1979," Eastman said.

Eastman also confirmed that the Columbia contract covered recording and distribution rights for McCartney product in the United States and Canada only. EMI will retain worldwide rights for future albums by McCartney and Wings.

When Paul McCartney left his North American contract with Capitol Records in early 1979 to sign with Columbia, his new label reissued his earlier records later that year. For his newer records, the arrangement with Columbia permitted them to release his back catalog after no less than five years had expired. For this reason, *Wings at the Speed of Sound* was not eligible for re-release by Columbia until March 1981. For that reason, Columbia retrieved artwork from Capitol that year and released the album in approximately July 1981.

Label c76

Columbia

FC-37409

Custom label



Columbia used the same artwork that Capitol had used, including the "FI" credit and the swapped images of the two band members.

Label 70

Columbia

PC-37409

Red/orange label. Columbia and the speaker logo appear six times around the perimeter. In 1985, Columbia moved the album into its budget (PC-) series.

