

Venus and Mars Wings

First appearance in trade magazines: June 7, 1975

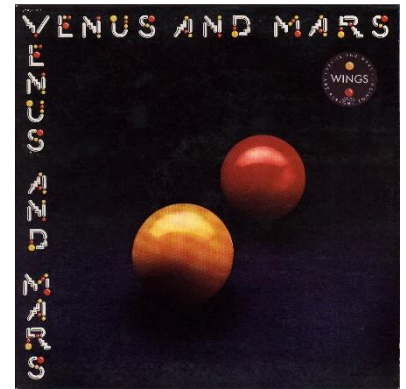
Label 75

Capitol

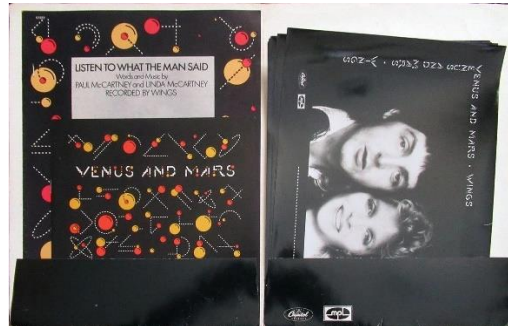
SMAS-11419

The print around the rim of the label mentions McCartney Music.

Capitol did not release promotional copies of the album; some commercial copies were used in a promotional capacity. Capitol also released a generous press kit.



Commercial Label



Press Kit



Inner Cover

The LP was pressed by all three Capitol pressing plants.

McCartney Press Conference Held on New Orleans Riverboat

■ NEW ORLEANS — Paul McCartney, who has been in this Louisiana city since mid-January, took time out from current recording sessions to meet with local press and representatives of the national news media. The site for the informal press reception was the New Orleans riverboat *Voyager*, and by the time the McCartneys arrived at the dock, more than 100 members of the press had arrived. The press reception, designed to be more an informal gathering turned into a fun jaunt along the Mississippi on a 50-year-old riverboat which is one of the few capable of making the trip through the Bayou country.

Paul, Linda and Wings
Paul and Linda McCartney, as well as their group, Wings (comprised of Denny Laine, Jimmy McCulloch and Joe English, who has been doing the session drumming during the band's stay in New Orleans) were greeted on the dock by the Tuxedo Jazz Band. Press representatives questioned the McCartneys on a broad range of topics concerning present sessions in the studio and future tour plans, among other things. McCartney, when asked about his new album, expressed hope that it would be ready for release by mid-April. "We've been working 10 hours a day on it," he said, "and everything has been going splendidly." The album, which is being recorded at Allen Toussaint and

Marshall Seashorn's Sea-Saint Studio, has no title yet. It will feature several New Orleans touches. One is expected to be on a song called "My Carnival," which Wings was in the process of recording the morning of the press party.

New Album
The new album, which Capitol will release, will consist of rock ballads and some "good old McCartney and Wings music." McCartney said he plans on taking Wings on tour around the U.S. sometime in the not too distant future, but no specific dates, cities or venues were discussed. Tony Dorsey has been in the studio with Paul and Wings handling some of the arranging chores.

When the press disembarked, the boat was taken over by celebrities from New Orleans, musicians and friends of the studio where a live hour party—boat-

ride in the Louisiana Bayou took place. Two bands, the Meters and Chocolate Milk, provided non-stop entertainment for the partygoers.

Parties were treated to an impressive series of jams including a rollicking finale featuring Paul McCartney, the Meters and some of the musical celebrities on hand.



Spot



WINGS—Venus And Mars, Capitol SMAS-11419. Latest effort from Paul McCartney and friends is another set of fine rock, but with some strong basic differences from past LPs. First, it stands less as a collection of good rock singles and more as a collection of various styles of music that can also work as singles. Styles range from the perfect Top 40 rock McCartney is such a master of to New Orleans, horn filled cuts to '20s flavored tunes to oldie sounding songs to some big brass arrangements. McCartney's vocals range from the smooth ballad style he has always handled well to a raunchier rock sound that he has heretofore been unable to attain, even on his wilder singles. In other words, he sounds less like a soft voice singer trying to scream and more like a legitimate screamer. Addition of Jimmy McCulloch has added a strong rock guitar vein and has allowed Denny Laine to switch to bass and spend more time on vocal harmonies. Linda also sounds like more of a singer. Guest musicians like Tom Scott, Allen Toussaint and Dave Mason also add to the variety of sounds and add an authenticity to the sounds and styles explored. A much more musically intricate project than Wings' other solo effort without losing the feeling of fun and spontaneity that good rock has always offered. And, to serve up the old cliché, all possible singles.

Best cuts: "Love Song," "You Gave Me The Answer," "Magneto And Titanium Man," "Spirits Of Ancient Egypt," "Medicine Jar" (letting Laine and McCulloch handle some vocals), "Call Me Back Again," "Listen To What The Man Said."

Dealers: Deluxe package and an artist who ranks with Elton John and Led Zeppelin as far as anticipation of product at the consumer level.

Posters

The album also came with two posters. Poster p1 is labeled SMAS-11419A. It shows Paul, Linda, and Denny walking down the streets of New Orleans. Poster p2 is labeled SMAS-11419B. It shows nine images, underneath which appears, "Venus and Mars are alright tonight."

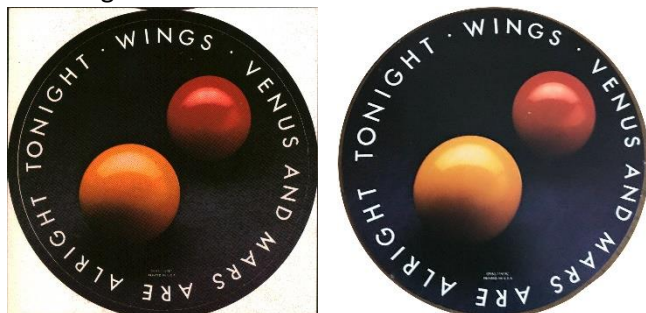


Stickers

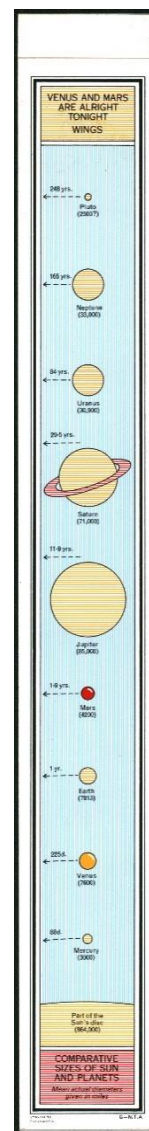
The first sticker (s1) appears on nearly all copies of the album. The round sticker is affixed to the front cover in the upper right quadrant. There are two variations of this sticker. Sticker s1a has slightly smaller print than sticker s1b, and the typeface used on the catalog number is different.



Sticker s2 also exists in two varieties. Most copies of the large, round sticker appear on a square piece of backing paper (s2a), but on some copies, the backing paper is round and is no larger than the sticker itself. This sticker is labeled SMAS-11419C.



Sticker s3 (SMAS-11419D) gives the approximate sizes and year length of each of the planets in the solar system.



Label 75m

Capitol

SMAS-11419

The print around the rim of the label mentions MPL Communications.
Released c. 1978.



Winchester

New McCartney, Wings Album Certified Gold

HOLLYWOOD — Capitol Records' Paul McCartney and Wings LP "Venus and Mars" has shipped gold, stated Don Zimmermann, senior vice president of marketing at Capitol Records, Inc. The new album, which was released worldwide on the Capitol label, is the artist's first solo effort to receive RIAA gold record certification upon its release. It has come on the **Cash Box** LP chart at #17 with a bullet.

"Venus and Mars" and the single from the album, "Listen To What The Man Said," were composed, produced and performed by McCartney and Wings under the group's new exclusive recording agreement with Capitol.

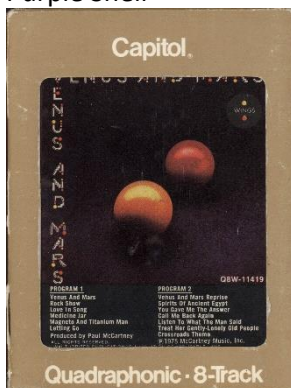
Capitol's four-year worldwide contract with Capitol Records expired in March 1979. At that point, Paul returned to Parlophone in the UK and signed with Columbia Records in North America. The arrangement between Paul and the two American labels allowed Columbia to reissue the records in his back catalog, once five years had elapsed since the album's first release. For *Venus and Mars*, this allowed Columbia to reissue the album beginning in 1980.

Label 75

Capitol

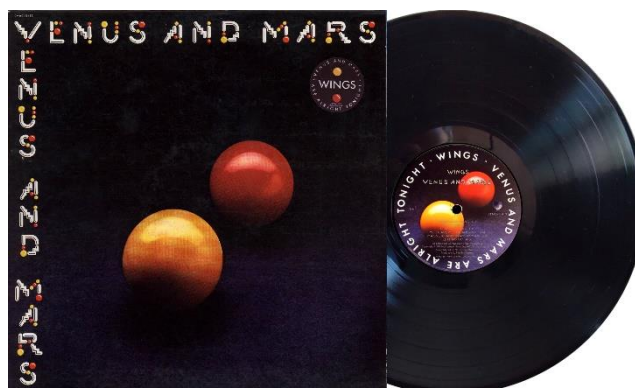
Q8W-11419

Purple Shell



Like most records at the time, *Venus and Mars* was released in other formats: eight-track and cassette tape. In addition to the usual stereo tape, there was also a four-channel quadraphonic mix available on eight-track.

What if it had come out on Apple?



Label 70

Columbia

JC-36801

Red/orange label. Columbia and the speaker logo appear six times around the perimeter.



The MPL logo at the top of the label is the logo that the company used from 1975 to 1982.

Label 70a

Columbia

JC-36801

Red/orange label. Columbia and the speaker logo appear six times around the perimeter.



The MPL logo at the top of the label is the newer “juggler” logo. Released 1982 to 1984.

Label 70a

Columbia

PC-36801

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.



When Paul returned to Capitol in '85, they did not reissue the album as an LP.



From a Promotional Film for the Album