

Ringo

First appearance in trade ads: November 3, 1973

Label **c73**

Stereo

SWAL-3413

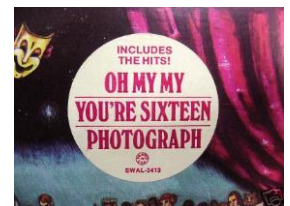
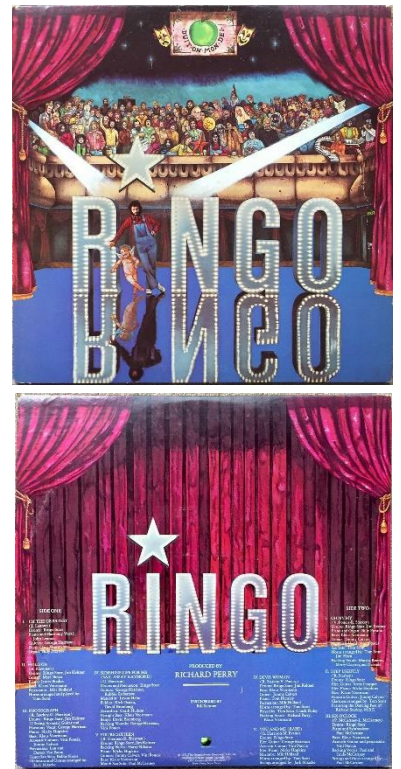
Custom label with star.



Factories: Los Angeles, Jacksonville, Winchester

Sticker:

Some Apple copies have a circular sticker on the shrink wrap promoting the inclusion of three singles.



Cover:

Ringo's longtime friend, Klaus Voormann, drew artwork for the lyric booklet (see below) and for the album cover. However, his black-and-white cover design did not find favor with Ringo and the folks at Apple. They rejected his concept and secured the services of Tim Bruckner, who painted the final wraparound in color.



Although commentators have observed the similarities between the covers to *Ringo* and *Sgt. Pepper*, Bruckner simply intended to include in his design those elements that he was commissioned to include, including a display of the people who had worked on the record in some capacity.



Photograph Barry Feinstein had set up giant letters spelling RINGO and, in some photos, had replaced the stroke of the letter “I” with Ringo himself. Bruckner focused on a representation of Ringo as he appeared with the large letters, included all of the people who were part of the album’s history, and added random images and “crazy” figures of his own creation. These included a man with a lightbulb over his head (having a good idea), a man whose head was a bag of popcorn, a bear reading a newspaper (about Ringo), Humpty Dumpty (or an “egg man”), Paul McCartney’s sheepdog (Martha), and Merlin the Wizard (with Ringo himself as a hand puppet). The nun in a blue habit is a depiction of one of the characters on the labels of Blue Nun wine. Ringo himself appears in a “Kilroy was here” pose, next to the other former Beatles.

Some of the people whom Bruckner depicted were not actually part of the team that worked on the album; instead, they were Ringo’s friends or people who were associated with him. These are indicated below in green print.

1. Hilary Gerrard (Ringo's financial adviser)
2. Tim Bruckner (the artist who painted the outer cover image)
3. Terry Southern (the author, who had written “Candy,” in which Ringo starred)
4. Peter Sellers
5. Miranda Quarry (Peter Sellers' wife)
6. Marc Bolan (of T. Rex) – plays guitar on “Hold On”
7. Mal Evans (wearing a sheriff star)
8. Judy Szekeley (engineer and tape operator)
9. David Bromberg – plays “fiddle” and banjo on “Sunshine Life for Me”
He holds a violin bow in the cover art



Standing behind the star are the members of The Band:

10. Richard Manuel (from The Band)
11. Garth Hudson (from The Band)
12. Rick Danko (from The Band)
13. Levon Helm (from The Band)
14. Robbie Robertson (from The Band)

Seated in front, creating drawings, is:

15. Klaus Voormann (who drew the illustrations in the booklet)

16. Yoko Ono

17. Barry Feinstein (the photographer)
18. John Lennon (holding a red star)
19. Linda McCartney
20. Paul McCartney
21. Alan Pariser (he organized the album package)

RINGO STARR—Ringo, Apple SWAL 3413 (Capitol). Just the best Ringo album ever. We all know already that “Photograph” has got to be a No. 1 single this month, right? Rest of the album is comparably enjoyable. Rich Perry and his cadre of superstar session helpers have created another stunning production package. Highly varied song selection with Ringo, Harrison, McCartney and Lennon all on tap as musicians and writers.

22. George Harrison (dressed like Ringo, and holding a balloon with the Sanskrit “om” on it)
23. Richard Perry (the album’s producer, using two telephones)
24. Vini Poncia
25. Bill Schnee (the album’s engineer)
He wears a shirt saying “Ever-Smiling,” and Ringo so labels him at the end of “You and Me Babe.”
26. Harry Nilsson (dressed as the Son of Dracula – an Apple film, co-starring Ringo)
27. **Robin Cruikshank** (who was Ringo’s partner in Ringo or Robin, Ltd.)
He wears a shirt with the RoR logo on it.
28. Jim Keltner (holding a drumstick, and apparently giving Nilsson something to drink)
29. Doug Sax (mastering engineer)
30. Nicky Hopkins, playing piano with...
31. Billy Preston
32. Leon Russell (holding binoculars)

Not everyone who worked on the album appears in the cover image. Among those excluded are:

Tom Scott (horns and other work on six songs)

Milt Holland (plays on three songs)

James Booker (piano on “I’m the Greatest”)

Jack Nitzche (arranger of two songs)

Lon & Derrek Van Eaton (“Photograph” – they were, of course, Apple stars)

Bobby Keys (sax on “Photograph.” He signed to the Ring o’Records label.)

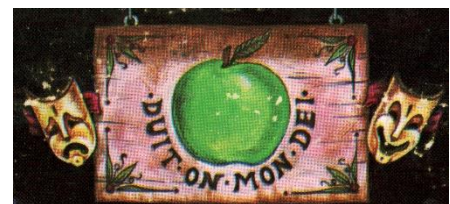
Garth Hudson (accordion on “Sunshine Life for Me”)

Rick Danko (also fiddled on “Sunshine Life for Me”)

Jimmy Calvert (guitar on five songs)

Steve Cropper (guitar on “Step Lightly”)

At the top of the front cover are the masks of Tragedy and Comedy, flanking a sign with a large apple in it. The pseudo-French motto under the apple is a parody of the motto of the monarch of the United Kingdom. King Richard originated it, referring both to his French ancestry and to the divine right of the monarch to occupy their position of nobility. “Dieu et Mon Droit” means “God and My Right.” As paraphrased by Harry Nilsson (and later used as an album title), we read “Duit on Mon Dei.” “Do it on Monday!”



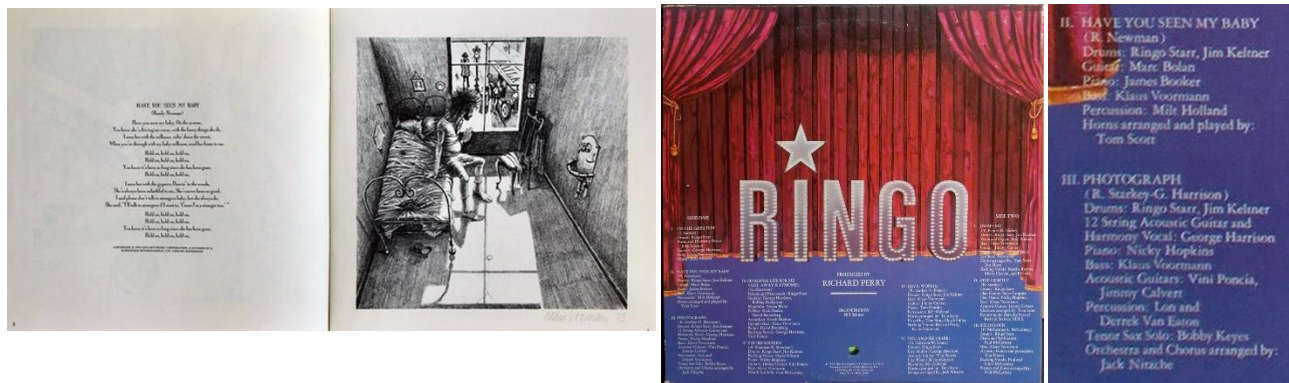
Booklet:

All Apple copies came with a lyric booklet, beautifully illustrated by Klaus Voormann.



Later Copies:

After the initial (large) run of albums, those involved realized that Ringo's cover version of Randy Newman's 1970 selection, "Have You Seen My Baby," was improperly titled as "Hold On" everywhere it appeared. For the second print run, they prepared new covers and new booklets showing the correct title; however, there were so many advance labels that all of the Apple labels incorrectly read "Hold On."



Six O'Clock:

Another last-second change resulted in the removal of the coda of Paul McCartney's main contribution: "Six O'Clock." At its original length, the song lasted 5:26 and returned after what seemed to be a final closing with a vamp ending. However, the production staff decided to snip the ending – trimming the song to 4:09. All of the label copy remained uncorrected, showing 5:26, but the vast majority of copies of the record were altered to play the shorter edit. What few copies exist seem to have been part of the initial batch of promotional copies – some of them having left the pressing plant without covers. One is able to recognize these copies without playing them. First: the matrix suffix shown in the trail-off of side two is Z15 or lower on the first-pressing copies with the long version of "Six O'Clock." The more common records have higher numbers, such as Z19, or even as high as Z26.

One may also observe that at over five minutes, the track in the middle of the side is wider than any other band on the side, as seen here.



If you are only interested in getting an "original" American release that has the long version of the song, simply buy any copy of the eight-track tape or cassette. All Apple copies have the long version of the song.



RINGO—Ringo Starr—Apple—SWAL 3413

Ringo continues to develop his own identity in this fascinating Richard Perry produced LP which features the sensational hit single "Photograph." The artistry on this album is the most unique in the history of pop music. All of the ex-Beatles, The Band, Marc Bolan, David Bromberg, Nicky Hopkins, Billy Preston, Steve Cropper, and a host of the finest studio men in the world combine to make each track a masterpiece. John Lennon's "I'm The Greatest" is a gem as is Randy Newman's "Hold On." In fact, every cut on the LP is distinguished by the individual genius of Ringo and the collective talents of his friends.

ALBUMS

RINGO STARR, "RINGO." All the anticipation about the other Beatles playing with Ringo will give way to greater appreciation of Mr. Starkey's own talents. Ringo's warmly plaintive singing shines in front of all those HEAVY sidemen. Lennon's "I'm the Greatest" is genuinely Beatlesque and the "Photograph" single is a beauty. Apple SWAL 3413 (6.98).

