

The Excello Records Story: RPM Series - A Nostalgic Journey Through Post-War Rhythm and Blues

In the annals of American music history, Excello Records stands as a beacon of authentic post-war rhythm and blues. Founded in 1951 by Ernie Young in Nashville, Tennessee, Excello became a musical melting pot, fostering the talents of countless artists who shaped the sound of the era.

Among Excello's most iconic releases was the RPM Series, a collection of groundbreaking 45-rpm singles that showcased the label's eclectic mix of blues, country, and soul music. This article delves into the rich history of the Excello Records RPM Series, exploring its impact on American music and the enduring legacy of its legendary artists.



Shake Your Hips: The Excello Records Story (RPM Series) by Ace Collins

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 2840 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 201 pages
Lending	: Enabled



The Birth of Excello Records

Ernie Young, a former record store owner, established Excello Records in 1951. Driven by a passion for authentic American music, Young sought to provide a platform for talented artists who were often overlooked by larger record labels.

Excello's early releases focused on blues, and artists like Jimmy Reed and Johnny Ace quickly became the label's mainstays. As the 1950s progressed, Excello expanded its repertoire to include country, soul, and rhythm and blues.

The RPM Series: A Musical Revolution

In the mid-1950s, Excello Records launched its RPM Series, a groundbreaking collection of 45-rpm singles that revolutionized the way music was consumed. These singles featured up-and-coming artists as well as established stars, offering a diverse mix of musical styles.

The RPM Series became a popular medium for artists to experiment with new sounds and break free from the constraints of traditional labels. Many of the songs released on this series went on to become classics of the era, including Junior Parker's "Mystery Train" and Roscoe Shelton's "Out of Luck."

Legendary Artists of the RPM Series

The Excello Records RPM Series featured an impressive roster of legendary artists who left an indelible mark on American music.

- **Jimmy Reed:** A harmonica virtuoso and blues legend, Reed's signature sound was characterized by his mournful harmonica melodies and gritty vocals.

- **Johnny Ace:** A soulful vocalist and pianist, Ace's tragic death at the age of 25 cut short a promising career but left behind a legacy of beloved songs, including "Pledging My Love."
- **Junior Parker:** A master of the saxophone, Parker's dynamic playing and soulful vocals earned him a reputation as one of the greatest blues musicians of his era.
- **Roscoe Shelton:** A hard-hitting blues guitarist, Shelton's raw and emotive playing style captivated audiences and influenced countless future blues musicians.
- **Slim Harpo:** A multi-talented musician and vocalist, Harpo's laid-back blues style and harmonica expertise made him a beloved figure in the blues community.

The Legacy of the RPM Series

The Excello Records RPM Series played a pivotal role in shaping the sound of post-war rhythm and blues. It provided a platform for talented musicians to showcase their artistry and reach a wider audience.

The songs released on the RPM Series have been covered by countless artists, including The Rolling Stones, Elvis Presley, and Bob Dylan, demonstrating their timeless appeal and enduring influence.

Today, the Excello Records RPM Series stands as a testament to the rich musical heritage of the post-war era. Its groundbreaking singles continue to inspire and entertain generations of music lovers.

The Excello Records RPM Series is an unparalleled collection of classic American music. It showcases the label's commitment to authenticity and its role in fostering the talents of legendary artists. The enduring legacy of

the RPM Series continues to inspire and entertain, solidifying its place in the annals of American musical history.

Further Reading

- [Excello Records Official Website](#)
- [AllMusic: The Excello Records Story: RPM Series](#)
- [Amazon: The Excello Records Story: RPM Series \(CD\)](#)



Shake Your Hips: The Excello Records Story (RPM Series) by Ace Collins

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 2840 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 201 pages
Lending : Enabled

FREE

DOWNLOAD E-BOOK



Big Data and the Future of Entertainment: A Comprehensive Exploration

The entertainment industry is undergoing a profound transformation driven by the explosive growth of big data. With vast amounts of data available on...



Essays on Love Affair: Unveiling the Alchemy of Human Connection

Love, an emotion as ancient as time itself, has inspired countless works of art, literature, and music throughout history. Its captivating and elusive nature...