

ELEKTRA

History: The Elektra label is a New York City based folk label started by Jac Holzman in 1950. In 1967 they opened a west coast office in Los Angeles to begin handling rock artists. In 1970, Jac Holzman sold Elektra to Warner Communications and in 1974 the Elektra and Asylum labels were combined. This now formed the main Warner/Elektra/Asylum (WEA) record conglomerate of today.

Mono/Stereo identification: The first initial Stereo releases in the 100 series were designated by a red label with a "X" added to the record number (Mono EKL-120 would be EKL-120-X for Stereo, see Label #1Stereo) and the wording "45/45 Stereo Disc" added to the disk.

Later Stereo releases were given a 2xx series number but not necessarily with the same xx number (Mono EKL-162 was issued as Stereo EKL-204-X). Then the xx number was maintained so that EKL-134 in Mono was now EKL-234-X in Stereo.

The final Stereo numbering system changed the prefix of the Mono number from EKL to EKS and preceded the Mono number with the number "7" which made the Stereo counterpart to Mono EKL 139 equal to EKS 7139. This was the format that remained until the last mono LP was issued.

Standard Series: There were several standard series over the years. The first 12" LPs were released starting at number 100. This continued until approximately 326/7326.

In 1966, the new 4000/74000 series was started to release the new Rock artists. By 1967, the old series was discontinued and merged into this series. This series lasted until 1971.

The 75000 series began in 1969 and ran concurrently with the 74000 series. The 75000 series lasted until Elektra and Asylum merged in 1974.

The 7E-1000 series started in 1974 and ran until 1978. This series included all of the Asylum releases as well as Elektra.

The 6E-100 series started in 1977 and overlapped the 7E-1000 series by a year. It lasted until 1981 and also overlapped the 5E-500 series that started in 1978 and ran to the end of 1981. All three of these series released both the Asylum and Elektra records.

At the start of 1982, the new 60000 series was started. The series included all of the Elektra and Asylum issues plus all other associated and WEA distributed labels such as Elektra-Musician, Elektra-Curb, Network, Planet, Light, and many others. This series continues to this day.

Multi Record Series:

9000 – Two multi LP sets; one in 1964 (EKL 9000) & one in 1970 (EKS 7-9002).

7E 2000 Series (2-LP sets) – Released from 1971 to 1976.

8E 6000 Series (2-LP sets) – Released from 1972 to 1978.

9E-300 Series (2-LP sets) – Released from 1977 to 1980.

BB 700 Series (2-LP Sets) – Released from 1978 to 1980.

90000 Series – Released from 1979 to 1981.

Country Music Series: This was a half dozen LP released in 1974/5 with the numbers CM-1 through CM-6.

LABEL: #1mono



DESCRIPTION: White label with green, red, or blue logo and print.

FROM: .
UNTIL: .

NOTE: The different color variations seem to have occurred as green first, then red, then blue. The examination of many more examples needs to be done.

LABEL: #1stereo



DESCRIPTION: Red label with silver logo and print.

FROM: .
UNTIL: .

NOTE: On the first couple Stereo releases, the Mono record number has a “-X” added and the “45/45 Stereo Disc” appears on the disk. Later the Stereo LPs had a different number assigned in the 2xx series (before the 100 series overran it). This version is known to exist on EKL-202-X in addition to the one pictured.

LABEL: #1stereo, a



DESCRIPTION: Red label with silver logo and print. This version is known as the “StereO” variation. The “45/45 Stereo Disc” wording still appears on the label.

FROM: .
UNTIL: .

LABEL: #1stereo, b



DESCRIPTION: Red label with silver logo and print. This version does not have the “45/45 Stereo Disc” wording on the label.

FROM: .
UNTIL: .

LABEL: #1stereo, c



DESCRIPTION: Red label with silver logo and print. This label is identical to Label #1 except the “45/45 Stereo Disc” wording has been replaced with just the word “STEREO”.

FROM: .
UNTIL: .

LABEL: #1stereo, d



DESCRIPTION: Grey label with round red logo at upper right. The bottom perimeter print reads "© 1960 by the Elektra Corporation.".

FROM: .

UNTIL: .

NOTE: This was the last unique label for Stereo releases. There need to be much more work done to identify when each of these variations occurred.

LABEL: #2



DESCRIPTION: Grey label with round red logo at upper right. The bottom perimeter print reads "© 1960 by the Elektra Corporation.".

FROM: .

UNTIL: .

NOTE: The "From" and "Until" LP numbers have been estimated. This was the first label variation that included both Mono & Stereo releases on the same label type.

LABEL: #3



DESCRIPTION: Gold label with white 'teeth' and perimeter, and with white logo.

FROM: .

UNTIL: .

NOTE: We have seen some variations that have the registration symbol to the right of the guitar player logo.

LABEL: #4



DESCRIPTION: Light brown label with large "E" logo at top with the label name under it. There is a registration symbol to the left of the large E.

FROM: .
UNTIL: .

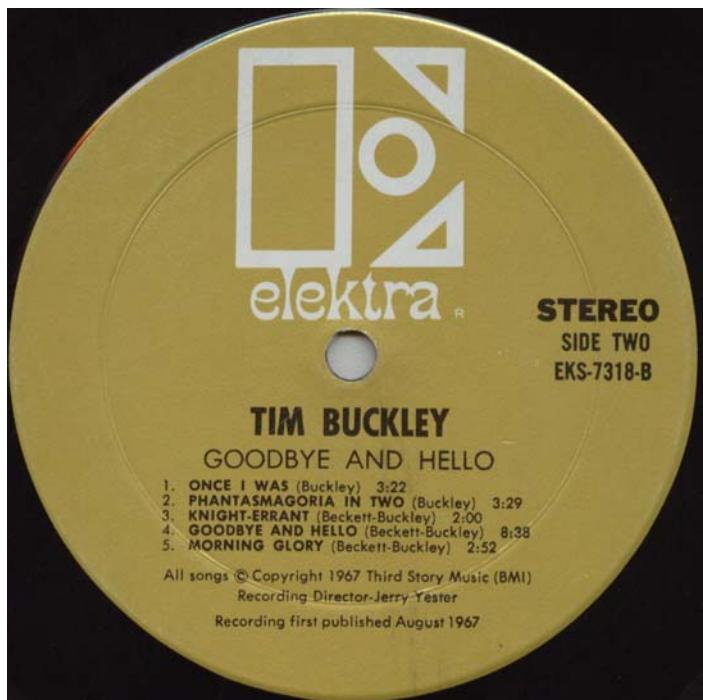
NOTE: The label also appears on LP 74061. Monaural LPs were discontinued in early 1968. There is no dateable significance in variations of color on this label, such as light brown, gold, copper, or silver/gray.

LABEL: #4dj



DESCRIPTION: White label with black logo, promotional issue. The registration symbol appears to the right of the E.

LABEL: #4a



DESCRIPTION: Light brown label with large "E" logo at top with the label name under it. There is a registration symbol to the right of the name. This variation appears on about a half dozen examples so far throughout the Label #4 span. It may only be a pressing plant variation.

LABEL: #5



DESCRIPTION: Red label with large white "E" logo. The registration symbol is to the right of the label name. There is no perimeter print at the bottom.

FROM: .
UNTIL: .

LABEL: #5a

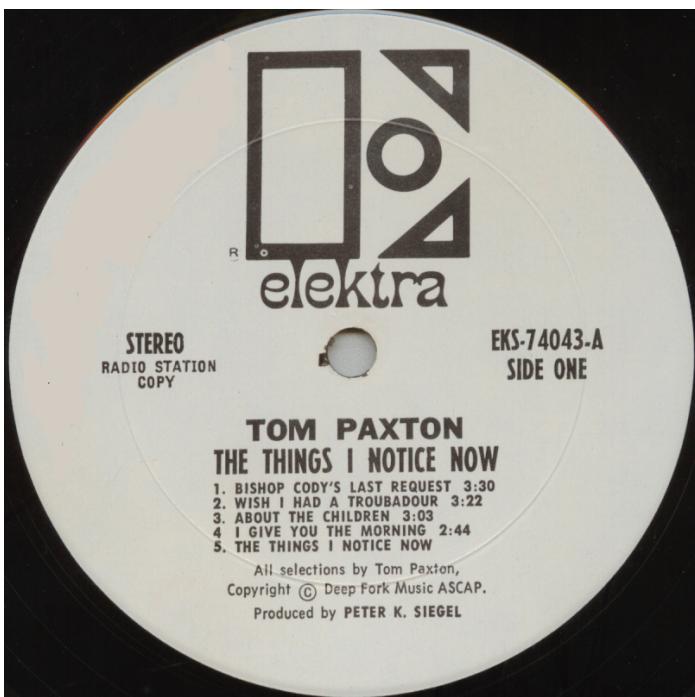


DESCRIPTION: Red label with large white "E" logo. The registration symbol is to the left of the logo. The bottom perimeter print reads, "Elektra Records • 1855 Broadway • New York City".

FROM: .
UNTIL: .

NOTE: Labels 5 & 5a appear to have been used concurrently. There is also a variation of 5a that does not have bottom perimeter print.

LABEL: #5dj



DESCRIPTION: White label with large black "E" logo and print, promotional issue.

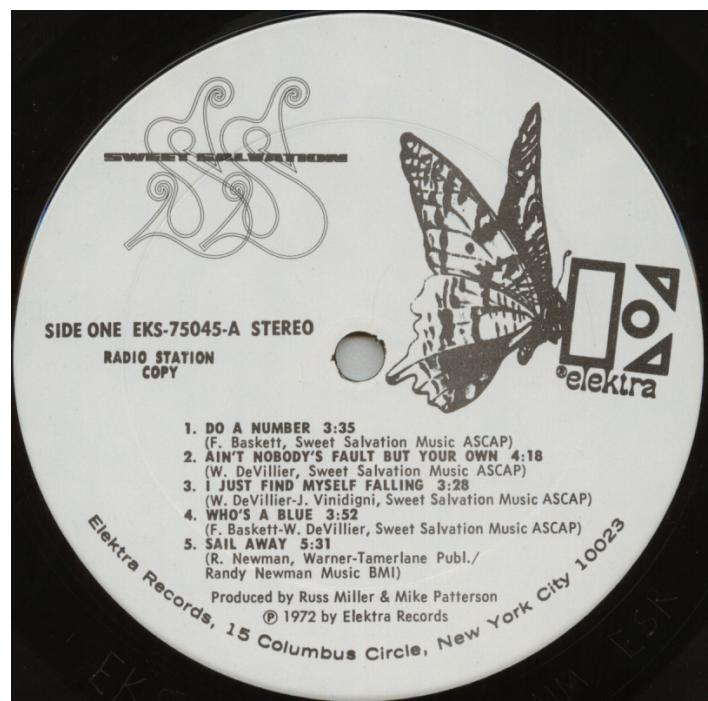
LABEL: #6



DESCRIPTION: Color label with butterfly and logo at right. The bottom perimeter print reads, "Elektra Records, 15 Columbus Circle, New York City 10023".

FROM: .
UNTIL: .

LABEL: #6dj



DESCRIPTION: White label with black logo and print, promotional issue.

LABEL: #7

DESCRIPTION: Color label with butterfly and logo at right. .
The bottom perimeter print reads, "Mfg by
Elektra/Asylum/Nonesuch Records 962 North La Cienega Blvd.
Los Angeles, California 90089/A Division of Warner
Communications, Inc" with the Warner logo.

FROM: .
UNTIL: .

LABEL: #7dj

DESCRIPTION: White label with black print and logo,
promotional issue.

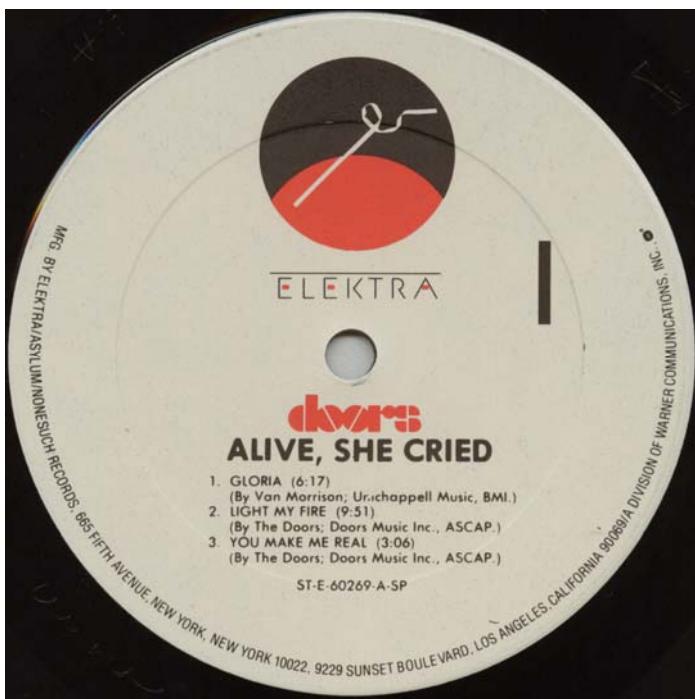
LABEL: #8

DESCRIPTION: Red label with a smaller white "E" logo than
label #5, and with Warner Bros logo at bottom. The bottom
perimeter print reads the same as label #7.

FROM: .
UNTIL: .

LABEL: #8dj

DESCRIPTION: White label black logo and print, promotional
issue.

LABEL: #9

DESCRIPTION: White label with red and black logo. The perimeter print reads, "Mfg by Elektra/Asylum/Nonesuch Records, 665 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York 10022. 9229 Sunset Boulevard, Los Angeles, California 90069/A Division of Warner Communications, Inc." with the Warner logo.

FROM: .
UNTIL: .

LABEL: #9a

(no image added yet)

DESCRIPTION: Identical to label #9 except the label is Black and the logo is red and white.

FROM: .
UNTIL: .

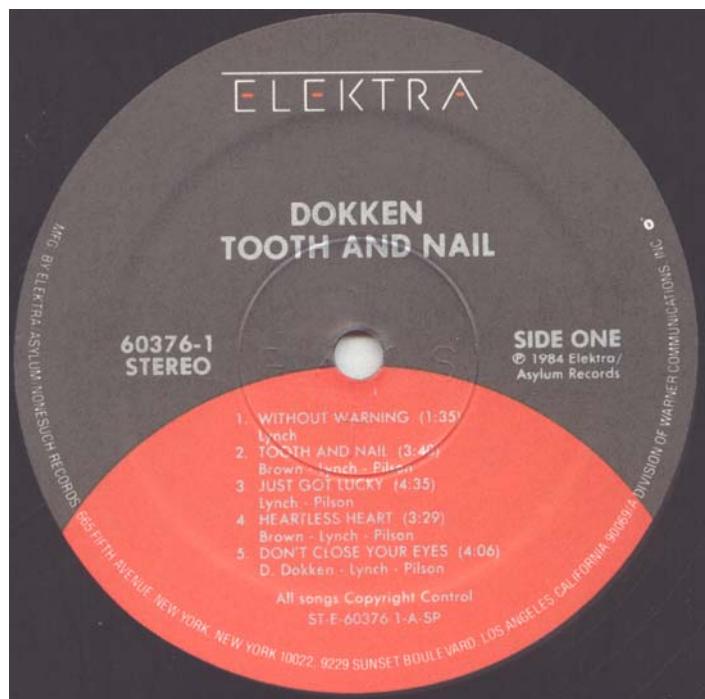
NOTE: Labels 9 & 9a may have been used concurrently.

LABEL: #9dj

(no image added yet)

DESCRIPTION: White label with red and black logo, promotional issue.

NOTE: A promo issue without the red and black round logo may also be available.

LABEL: #10

DESCRIPTION: Black and red label and a white logo. The perimeter print reads the same as label #9.

FROM: .
UNTIL: .

NOTE: There is also a version with the perimeter print having an address of 75 Rockefeller Plaza in New York instead of 665 Fifth Avenue as shown in the #10dj promotional label.

LABEL: #10dj

DESCRIPTION: White label with red and black logo, promotional issue.

LABEL: #11

DESCRIPTION: White label with a Black and red logo. The perimeter print reads, "Mfg by Elektra/Asylum/Nonesuch Records, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, New York 10019. 345 N. Maple Drive, Beverly Hills, Ca. 90210/A Division of Warner Communications, Inc." with the Warner logo.

FROM: .
UNTIL: .

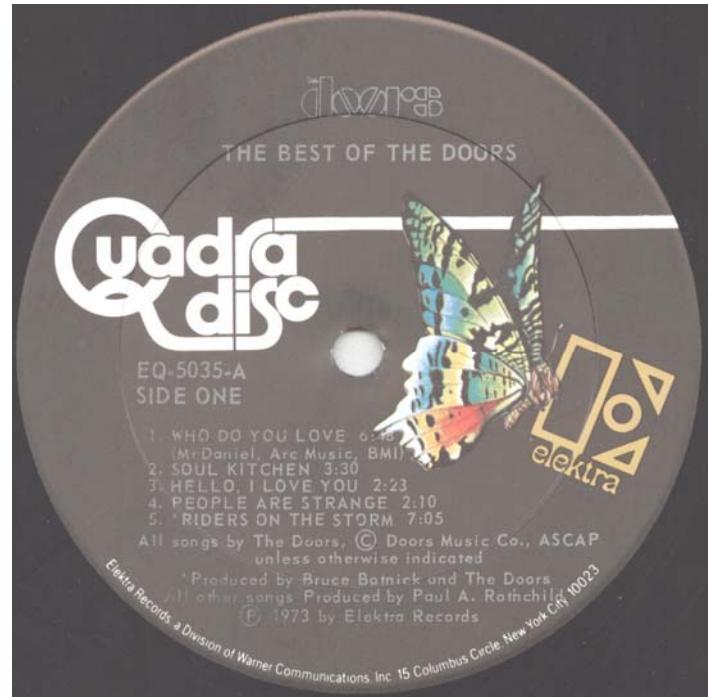
NOTE: The label pictured is a Columbia Records Club issue. It may have been unique to them, but not likely.

LABEL: #12

DESCRIPTION: White label with a Black and red logo. The perimeter print reads, "Mfg by Elektra Entertainment, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10019. 345 N. Maple Drive, Beverly Hills, Ca. 90210/A Division of Warner Communications, Inc." with the Warner logo.

FROM: .
UNTIL: .

Elektra Special Series

LABEL: #S1 Quadraphonic

DESCRIPTION: Issued in either the #6 style, color label, or else on a black label, quadraphonic issue.

Do you have a variation not shown? Please send images of any examples of new variations via email to:

r1guide@recordranch.com

Your contribution will be greatly appreciated and your name will appear on the "Credits" page of the next edition. If you would prefer not to have your name listed, please let us know when you send the images.