Pursuing purveyors of vintage vinyl

Frank Zappa taught me everything I know about used record stores. My introduction to music was through the (routine) purchase of a 45 rpm single from Frank Zappa, Free. It was sold by the Sons of Monster Magnet by the Mystic Marathon record store in Cambridge. Although I learned from Frank, Free. It was sold by the Sons of Monster Magnet by the Mystic Marathon record store in Cambridge. Although I learned from Frank, Free. It was sold by the Sons of Monster Magnet by the Mystic Marathon record store in Cambridge. Although I learned from Frank, Free. It was sold by the Sons of Monster Magnet by the Mystic Marathon record store in Cambridge. Although I learned from the store, you learn the store, you learn the store.

The types of used records are as numerous as the stores, but break down into these basic categories:

1) “Plucked” — These are records without original covers that have been issued by an artist. They may be owned by fans and be found at record stores. The Mungo Jerry single I mentioned is a good example. You may be able to find a mint-condition single of the Beatles’ “Under the Influence” or a rare single of a local band.

2) Promotional copies — These are records that were sent to radio stations, newspapers (this one mentions the free/newspaper’s music reviews), or other media outlets. Each store has its own special way of obtaining these records, but it is often a combination of luck and persistence. If you are not familiar with the store, you may be able to find some interesting records.

3) Cutouts — These are records that have been returned to the distributor because they were not sold. These records are generally in near-perfect condition, and only Cost Plus will sell them for a discount.

4) Two good theaters for matinees, with a wider variety and a blanket discount of 20 percent on all paperbacks and 30 percent on all hardcovers. Copies of the few Zappa albums sell for 50 dollars or more as the20th Century, and you’ll find them in the bins for years.

5) Oldies — These are records that have been newly pressed, and usually available at sealed copies, though the shrink wrap covering the record has not yet been opened. A price tag may be added as the record becomes more difficult to find, but this is generally a more expensive option than the previous category. If you find a record that you think is rare, and the array of “not for sale” records behind the counter. I’ve been trying to get to know the bargain hunters, and in the last two years, it’s a minicore of a voice record at a garage sale — guaranteed to break an arm or two.

6) “Loaned for promotional use only.” These records are usually used for the promotion of a new record, and are often available without charge. You may be able to find a copy of Zappa’s “Absolutely Free” or a rare record by your favorite band.

7) “Promo discs” are generally given away for promotional purposes, and are often available to the public for free. These records are usually in near-perfect condition, and only Cost Plus will sell them for a discount.

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