



Manchester University Press

HIDDENMASTERS

**The first volume of
The Island Book of Records (1959–1968)
edited by Neil Storey,
Island's former Head of Press,
will be published by Manchester University
Press on October 3, 2023.**

The IBoR documents an irreplaceable span of music history while Island's unique legacy is contextually set within its own socio-political milieu and properly preserved for future generations.

When complete, the individual volumes will represent the entire compendium of Island's records – from the company's first release in Jamaica during 1959, to when Chris Blackwell sold the label in 1989.

Every album is fully illustrated to include labels, booklets, die-cut covers and foreign editions as well as scheduled but ultimately unreleased LPs. The IBoR combines contemporary commentary with interviews from years gone by whereby the stories behind the records and their artwork are told by those involved in their making: musicians, designers, photographers, producers, engineers, managers and record company personnel of the time.

In volume one, the very many interviewees include founder Chris Blackwell together with photographers Dick Polak, John Benton-Harris, Gered Mankowitz FRPS and Barrie Wentzell; graphic artists John Hurford and Burt Goldblatt; musicians Owen Gray, Ernest Ranglin, Muff Winwood, Jess Roden, Dave Pegg, Simon Nicol, Spooky Tooth's Mike Harrison and Kellie, Patrick Campbell-Lyons, Don Letts and Steve Winwood; former Island staff members David Betteridge, Ann Sullivan, Rob Bell, Penny Massot, John Glover, Tom Hayes, Tim Clark and John Knowles; studio

engineers Phill Brown, Brian Humphries and John Wood; producer-managers Joe Boyd and Sandy Roberton. Commentary of the time includes Ian Anderson, Terry Ellis, Barbara Lynn, Enid Cumberland and Linton Kwesi Johnson while in memoriam are Guy Stevens, Sandy Denny, Elmore James, John Martyn, Lee Gopthal, Chris Wood, Byron Lee, Count Prince Miller, Millie Small, the Rt Hon Edward Seaga and Jim Capaldi.

The IBoR is designed by Jayne Gould – former Creative Director of Associated Newspapers, Design Director for News Corp. and Art Director, at Tatler.

Each vinyl-sized volume runs to approx. 390+ pages and contains a comprehensive illustrated discography of 45s and EPs alongside gig adverts (many at venues which no longer exist), flyers, magazine covers, concert tickets, and Island's pioneering LP adverts – many of which became art in their own right – plus other artefacts and ephemera.

A unique project which began over 15 years ago, no other label has been chronicled in such fashion.



Volume 2 (1969–1970) is planned for release by MUP during October 2024.

"I really believe if people see something that looks good, subconsciously they'll think maybe there is something going on inside, on the record. There were times when somebody came out with a cover which was actually better than the record itself, so I'd have to send them back to remake the record."

Chris Blackwell talking to The Daily Telegraph, May 20, 2009