



ORGM 1052

Thelonious Monk: The London Collection Vol. 1

Format: 1LP 33rpm / standard sleeve

Manufacturer: Original Recordings Group Music

Release date: 15.06.2013

What if you could be a fly on the wall at Thelonious Monk's final recording sessions as leader? You can. Offering tremendous late-period performances, "The London Collection Vol. 1" is nothing but Monk, improvisational, unhinged, and unrestrained. Alternating between established originals and familiar classics, the pianist weaves magic spells on the 88s, savoring pauses between notes, the decay of chords, and a fluid style that feels more welcome than some of his angular playing.

Originally released by the UK label Black Lion, an imprint that specialized in resurrecting rare gems from US jazz and blues legends, "The London Collection Vol. 1" marks what are indisputably Monk's final significant contributions and a can't-miss opportunity for collectors and enthusiasts to get closer to the man and his music. Orchestrated by ORG Music, this historical reissue is afforded the ultimate in audiophile production standards, resulting in sonics and presentation befitting the museum-like worth of this record's existence.

Mastered from the original master tapes at Bernie Grundman Studios by Chris Bellman and pressed at Pallas, the 180g LP was curated by legendary engineer Steve Hoffman and eq'd by Grundman himself. A better team you cannot find; every step involved serious quality-control measures to guarantee gorgeous sound. The superb vinyl jacket features exclusive artwork. Indeed, this is what being a collector is all about. The title may not be widely known to most, but this reissue preserves vital music that will be enjoyed by generations to come. Consider it a buried treasure that, miraculously, has resurfaced in better condition than that when it was originally made.

Note: The London Collection Vol. 1 is also available as a Deluxe Edition, which includes the 33RPM LP as well as a 45RPM 2LP and diecut black gatefold jacket. Limited and numbered to 500 copies!

Jazz fans, Monk followers, audiophiles, and music fanatics, don't sleep on this collectable gem!

"The London Collection Vol. 1" - Thelonious Monk (p)