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Ending this Wednesday

For the very rarest, most sought after 45s and lp's all the best soul vinyl deals, browse our 'Ending This Wednesday' Auction section, for the fully automated LIVE auction. for at least 20 rare and collectible discs. All available online at Rare Soulman. This section is always stocked with the coolest and rarest finds so be sure to keep coming back to check out our selection of stock. Add something different to your collection today.

The condition and authenticity of our 'Ending This Wednesday' records are always carefully and closely scrutinised. If you enjoyed our Motown Worldwide records, then you may also enjoy checking out our [soul auctions ending next Wednesday](#).



Jimmy Helms

Romeo And Juliet / Ragtime Girl

Pye: 7N 45440 (45s)

New York knowhow meets British orchestral elevation!

A UK produced masterpiece of 70's dance Soul from a man who's origins were firmly entrenched at the cutting edge of the New York Big City sound!

It never ceases to amaze me how the decision-makers at Record companies, can be so blinkered that they relegated this dancer to the flipside of schmaltzy ballad that so obviously could never have become a hit..

As on countless previous occasions it was left to the British Northern Soul investigative team to uncover its brilliance. When presented to the Rare-Soul crowd "Romeo & Juliet" became a huge tune for Ian Levine, Mr. Mischief, and a few other adventurous down-south jocks. Taking no time at all to take-off as a NS dancefloor delight.

No USA release and a flop upon its initial UK release in 1974, the challenging chase was on to own a copy. These 70's Brit 45's that never sold a bean on the first place, are darn tricky to acquire. This pre-Disco Explosion beauty was no exception. Obscured by being a b-side, made it the perfect Northern Soul candidate, a position it gratefully accepted with Ian Levine's attentions, it grew into a major want for DJ's up and down Britain.

Hearing it again today, none of 's magic has faded. The masterful Jimmy Helms vocal crooning his own well constructed lyrics sail on a Johnny Worth full orchestra production... Inspiring stuff! Perfect Northern Soul dancefloor fuel.

Winning Bid: **£162.00**

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Perched perfectly for a Northern Soul comeback ... the renaissance is long overdue... now remind yourself of its brilliance!

Condition Report

Fine clean vinyl, hardly a blemish, strong mint minus. both labels have very light sparse spotting, see images.



Lil Gray

Are You Fooling / I Want To Tell
Jerma: 101 (45s)

A thumping Chicago R&B floor-filler, as the seriously elusive 1965 authentic original press!

An addictive Chicago Northern Soul R&B mover a current spin upfront and imaginative DJ Darren Sykes and many other for like explosive tunes to fire their sets. So get ready, Soul Sister Leoncy Lloyd is about to take you on a hair-raising trip through dancefloor destruction.

Opening up with the pulsating guitar rhythms by Ulyesses Warren, inviting Leoncy's convincing voice to step into this compelling mid-tempo dancer, quickly enhanced by the addition of subtly stabbing horns. The three components fuse beautifully, into a musclebound dance session; saturated in everything we adore about Chicago and street-level productions utilizing local talent.

Even the neighbourhood printing of the labels has it's charms, when after two attempts to get the typesetting right. This press comes out with the first "O" in FOOLING appearing as the number "0". With the another adjustment to the letters they reset the label, but failed to notice "You" was set in lower casing.

Personally I'm drawn to these rare D.I.Y. street-level anomalies on these irresistible labels. Nothing like, though, as irresistible as "Lil Gray's" singing style. Her uncanny ability to hold a note with that stinging vocal, then slowing transforming a word into a soothing hum... once again U.S. Warren steps in to strut his prowess with the guitar, fabulous stuff!

A captivating example of urban Chicago Soul/R&B by a lady who unfortunately only recorded 3 45's in all, all in sequence for label owner Mr. Warren. Then sadly she disappeared off the recording scene... Leaving the rare soul collector and the DJ with much to investigate and enjoy about this little-known Diva. ..

Condition Report

Two bright clean ice-blue labels. Vinyl is a strong clean, previously unplayed Mint minus, only revealing the finest sleeve contact hairlines under direct light. Plays perfect, looks stunning.

Winning Bid: **£419.00**

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Christine Cooper

Heartaches Away My Boy / (They Call Him) A Bad Boy
Parkway : P 983 DJ (45s)

Those goose pimples never weaken..

If ever I was asked to play 10 examples of truly unsurpassable Northern Soul, I would add this to my top ten tools for converting the uninitiated into a lifestyle that most of us have never wavered from for 50 years or more.

"Heartaches Away My Boy" does it every time... catapulting me back to my "Wonder

Winning Bid: **£439.00**

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Heartaches Away My Boy" does it every time... capturing me back to my "Wonder Years" of the early 70's.

This listing is obviously Northern Soul classic style at it's maximum. First played by Ian Levine at The Blackpool Mecca and so Motownesque, it apparently caused a sensation on its Mecca debut. But then again it was constructed by two geniuses of popular music. Philly based Sal Tramiaci & Richie Cordell along with Jerry Kasenetz & Jeff Katz created the Super K production "Sound". Here not only capturing The Motown Sound, the team actually outstrip "Motown magic" by crafting one of the greatest Northern Soul creations ever.

I wonder what Ian must have felt inside, as the opening drums hit his ears, closely followed by soaring strings scything the air; then a Mike Terry styled burping sax peppers the whole arrangement.

An intro that would have sent, even a rubbish dancer like me, sliding around the Highland Room arms aloft in utter ecstasy.. I imagine The Mecca congregation did exactly that. But more poignantly could Ian have believed his ears when diamond stylus dropped onto the grooves of his new find. It must have been awesome realization that rare soul 45's can be even better than he'd ever dreamed of. Spurring him on to search for more adrenaline rushes that these lost recordings trigger.. We've all felt that moment at some time during our Northern Soul journey .

Sal Tramiaci & Ritchie Cordell had already recorded this celestial voice as "Tari Stevens" "False Alarm" on Fairmount. She was perfect for this project. A powerfully sweet voice, cradled by shrill girl choruses, whilst a cascade of volcanic-charged horns rise up, strings encase the voices, taking everyone on a trip into, what has got to be considered one of the greatest Northern Soul records of ALL TIME!

Whilst this masterpiece, a true "lost Soul" gem most likely never sold a unit upon release, it did however hone the "Super K" skills in organizing an overblown production into a perfect storm; as the Super K team hit worldwide fame with their "Kasenetz - Katz Musical Circus" - Quick Joey Small - a huge fave at our local Youth club.. but it was not until 1973 and the bootleg of Christine Cooper emerged on that professional looking Simon Soussan repro on "Super K" that allowed the backwoods of Melton Mowbray to hear this sumptuous slab of Northern Soul.

48 years later it still makes me tingle..

Condition Report

Small rubberstamp red star on a-side label. Vinyl reveals light surface marks, but as you can hear it plays crisp, clean, loud and true, the occasional light tick along way. Listen



Lynne Randell

Stranger In My Arms / Ciao Baby
CBS : 2847 DJ (45s)

Northern Soul Anthems and their Myths...

Before you is rare but classic British release Northern Soul, so elusive, this is only our 3rd copy in the last 21 years. So please forget all the myths of it being an Australian recording and the Australian CBS press is the original and the rarest of its few locations of release.

The facts are, this timeless NS anthem was recorded, whilst Lynne took some time off from her 1967 tour of the US supporting The Monkees. Popping into the studio, going under the wings of legendary New York record makers. Bob Crewe, Gary Knight doing the lyrics, the great Herb Bernstein (a man guaranteed to give a production his full attention) doing the powerful arranging for producer Ted Cooper. Not an Aussie in sight... But after all that they unbelievably relegated this masterpiece to a B-side

Winning Bid: **£450.00**

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masterpiece to a 45 size.

This Northern Soul classic has more than it's fair share of "Fake News" none more than being the misconception that this 1967 Australian is it's rarest form, far from it, as once we consult our precise 21 year sales data on this inspirational slab of Northern Soul. That first came to the fore as it's rare British press played and made really oh so popular circa 1973. So to lift the fog surrounding "Stranger In My Arms" here is a JM table of it sales history spanning over two decades.

Australian 45 – 12 copies

USA 45 store release – 4 copies with picture cover (it's first release btw)

USA 45 Promo – 15 copies with or without Picture Cover

British 45 DEMO – 2 copies

British 45 store release copy – ZERO

Not forgetting the enviable durability of the UK or Australian vinyl as opposed to the frailties of the USA Columbia pressed styrene, makes this 1967 UK trophy even more desirable.

May we add to think Lynne Randell is even Australian, or misguidedly her Australian 45 is its rarest form is to completely "myth" the point. In reality this is surely the greatest Northern Soul 45 ever recorded by a "Scouser".

To consider this killer tune an Australia recording, or it's the "Oz" copy its rarest format and to christen Lynne Australian by birth is indeed wholly inaccurate.

The point here is a 1967 British Promo copy is a Beit "Holy Grail" that and rarely surfaces for sale.. here is a rare opportunity to acquire a legendary English Demo.

A thing of beauty..

Condition Report

Vinyl reveals only the merest light hairline or two, a strong clean Ex+. Clean a-side label, "Stranger" label has a minuscule light stain left hand side NOT affecting text. Beautifully presented in the correct CBS sleeve



Earl Jackson

Soul Self Satisfaction / Looking Through The Eyes Of Love

ABC: 11142 DJ (45s)

Rare Chicago Northern Soul with teeth!!

The mysterious Earl Jackson, collides with Johnny Pate's team of searing Sister vocals, riding a wave a guitar rhythms, cradled by a barrage of brass.

What an intro!

One of the most motivational Northern Soul awakenings that ever graced a turntable. Those intricate guitar plucks are the starting pistol to the park your drink and head to the floor, to be blown away by a full-blown brass, peppered by those uncredited Chicago Sisters "Doo Wahs".. then Earl's silky vocal hitches a ride on this runaway NS Soul train..

This is an audio time-machine guaranteed to catapult the old-school back to The Torch, The Cats, Va Va's, Blackpool Mecca and later Wigan Casino. Euphoric Northern Soul recall does not get any more potent than this ballistic missile rockets you back in time, to the good-old-days..

Johnny Pate after all was an arranger, producer extraordinaire. Arguably the busiest man in Chicago during the 60's behind so many durable Northern Soul anthems..

and that's what this is....an explosive Northern Soul anthem, ready to be detonated and shower you in feel-good shrapnel...

Winning Bid: **£549.00**

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Condition Report

Note there's a very light green tinge at the bottom of the a-side label, this is its only flaw; as the vinyl is immaculate, the finest I've playing surface I've experienced with this title. A DJ's favourite drop and this copy looks like it has hardly been played.



Rita DaCosta

Don't Bring Me Down / No! No! No!
Mohawk: 703 DJ (45s)

The highly attractive May 1969 Los Angeles press, of this pumped-up New York Northern Soul anthem that simultaneously resounded round Wigan Casino & Cleethorpes Pier during the mid-70s. An outburst of girl-power with few comparisons, driven by a typically uncompromising Bert Keyes arrangement. A record that influenced many a DJ set, with its irresistible combination of rhythmic drumming, clattering piano, bass guitar, drum intro that explodes into a torrent of Northern Soul the moment Rita's booming vocal lifts off, she is then joined by a team of girl-voices banging out the chorus.

BOOM! we have unforgiving Northern Soul pounding the floorboards. Partitioned by that most memorable brass fanfare instrumental break. A instant trigger for "Golden days" euphoria

Bert Keyes flexes his arrangement muscle by injecting a barrage of brass into an already crammed production.. the whole session mushrooms into an unstoppable downpour of Sister Northern Soul.

Utterly classic "allniter-fuel" that still remains a most welcome dancefloor motivator...

Here it is, in it's prettiest clothes..

Condition Report

Two clean labels, Mint - vinyl that only reveals a few light surface hairline under direct light. plays, as you can hear bright crisp and clean

Bid: **£239.00**

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Willie Tee

I'm Having So Much Fun / First Taste Of Hurt (1003 mix)
Gatur : G-557 (45s)

Willie Tee's Holy Grail giving two of his finest recording on one seriously rare 45.

"I'm Having So Much Fun" is one of Willie's very rarest 45's, another classy mid-tempo Soulful strutter bolstered with a New Orleans brass section, rhythmic bongo, interacting with Willie's accomplished keyboard pulses lay down the landscape for Willie's instantly recognizable always uplifting vocal. His optimism again spilling over, has he broadcasts his joy of chasing his chosen girl. "I'm having so much fun - trying to win your love, baby". Taking pleasure frioom his challenge, his confidence is infectious leaving the listener believing he'll succeed. A fabulously exhilarating slice of rare Northern Soul crossover.

The flipside "First Taste Of Hurt" is the first press master # 1003 mix. Along with most everybody else this Willie Tee composition is his best, as lyrical genius pours from his lips. As a less joyous Willie tries to point out a life-lesson is about to hit his lady head-on. " Get Ready For You First Taste Of Hurt" not for a moment in a vindictive way, but with a measure of care Willie's saddened voice predicts something he really doesn't want to. This is Soul storytelling at it most convincing.

Winning Bid: **£1,514.00**

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Two momentous pieces of real-deal New Orleans Northern Soul, on one hideously rare 45. Underlining again, just how dazzling this artist's work was.

Condition Report

Fine clean vinyl, a fancy scrolled X on a-side label, finely drawn in ballpoint pen. Flipside label is clean. The sturdy heavyweight vinyl reveals only the merest light storage hairlines, both sides play clean.



Kenny Shepard

What Difference Does It Make / Try To Understand
Maxx : 332 (45s)

MANSHIP MINTS and it's 11 months to Christmas !

Beat Ballad Heaven not once but twice over, as it matters not on which side the arm is dropped on, the result is the same; Van McCoy genius floods your senses.

As if there was ever any doubt that Van McCoy is just the greatest creator of rare Soul delights, this song confirms his mastery of the big production. Taking Kenny Shepard's gilded vocal and gently lacing it through a mood-changing production.

The NS anthem of missed chances, lost opportunities, hesitation and dashed dreams. Kenny's saturated in regret vocal, transmitting a tidal wave of remorse on the back of skyward soaring strings. McCoy during his short life rose to become arguably the greatest exponent of the New York Beat Ballad with his singular work. Listen how he builds up a mountainous production, with a cocktail of girl-group choruses woven into a bank of strings. He was only 24 years of age when he crafted this masterpiece.

The voice was hand-picked for this, perhaps his most magnificent work, as Kenny Shepard's honeyed purring voice glides from one peak to the next.

Flip it over to hear Kenny confirm himself as one of the unsung truly great balladeers, as he meanders through the Latin flavoured "Try To Understand" with a consummate ease comparable with Jesse Belvin or Sam Cooke.

Two glorious songs that should come under the new category of "BEAST Ballad Heaven"..

Condition Report

A flawless copy, previously unplayed, housed in birth-sleeve, revealing only the merest sleeve storage hairlines under direct light, plays of course perfect!

Winning Bid: **£300.00**

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Communicators and Black Experience Band

The Road / Has Time Really Changed
Tri Oak : TO 102 (45s)

A fabulous North Carolina Funker backed up with a superb horn saturated vocal group ballad; Two strong sides...

The lead side is blatant in-your-face FUNK. Featuring uncompromising use of horns, bass guitar, wah-wah guitar summoning up explosive FUNK. The barrage of brass is split by insistent guitar rhythms, sprinkled with jazzy keyboard decoration. The deceptive intro of crashing cymbals, is met by urgent plectrum pulses. The Horns rise-up to be joined by a wild saxophone strut. The brass-section gets stronger and louder. An intrusive trumpet solo bridges a pause before it's an all-out attack of

Bid: **£117.00**

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brass; the competing wah-wah battles for supremacy as a rumbling Bass guitar elevates this tune into a very special dance experience indeed. Who cannot feel the FUNK!

One of the most impressive Deep Funk instrumentals of them all..

Flip it over to hear the same instruments cradle a beautiful Deep Soul vocal group ballad. A softly delivered voice is lifted by group members. A sad social statement utilizing some masterful male vocals, with impressive note holding until a baritone narrates the struggle of the Black man. An age old question of the Negros battle for equality, so brilliantly asked.

A fabulous double sider showcasing the "roots" of real-Soul from the Carolinas.

Condition Report

Two clean labels, both sides of the vinyl has surface marks. top side plays well with the light crackles being devoured by the potency of those instruments. The harmony ballad with its softer under-belly, reveals more crackles that the lead side but plays with no skips or sticks



Bruce Cloud

My Book / Lucky Is My Name
Era : 3087 DJ (45s)

Classic rare Popcorn/R&B for decades! Now considered a staple rare R&B / Northern Soul spin, but seldom turns up for sale.

One listen and you will be a prisoner of it's charms. In fact most every recording Bruce Cloud cut carries those addictive rhythms of haunting popcorn, he was so comfortable conveying.

California based "Cloud" is something of "Popcorn" "R&B" icon; checking out the rest of his 45's is essential, to appreciate just how cool this guys singing style is.

One for the DJ's who step outside the box, to spice up their DJ sets.

LOVE IT!

Condition Report

multiple light surface hairlines visually vg+ but plays better! x on a-side label (see images). light storage wear and faded name on flipside label.

Winning Bid: **£183.00**

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Garfield Fleming

Don't Send Me Away (5:21) / You Got Dat Right
Becket : BKD 505 12" (12" Single)

One of the best-loved of all the classic Northern Soul modern dance recordings. Tell who does not adore this 1981 slab of Soulful class?

The overwhelming experience of the 3:48 long 45 press, like everything in life that's extra special... food, drink, love? The 45 version also leaves you wanting for more, so very good, "please just play for a little longer" was always my response.

I think it's the desperately pleading tremor in Garfield's voice gliding over the simplistic keyboard rhythms, supported by a rich male-vocal-group harmony choruses. I've already played this 12" 3 times in a row already, it's a mood-changer of the highest quality. The strange contradiction that Garfield's despair making the dancer feel uplifted is one of the powers of a good Soul recording.

Winning Bid: **£109.00**

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dancer feel upmixed is one of the powers of a good soul recording.

So here is a chance to dine-out and satiate your hunger for the comprehensive ""Don't Send Me Away" the full-Monty the 5:21 version of pure joy.

Such a glorious 5 minutes and more... of proper 80's soulful dance.

Condition Report

Two clean labels, vinyl reveals only the mildest light surface hairlines , none of which affect play, housed in the original Becket card sleeve.



Mr. Flood's Party

Compared To What / Unbreakable Toy
GM : 714 (45s)

Original 1971 1st Detroit press of this favourite Northern Soul Wigan Casino anthem, that still today, receives a highly appreciative response every time it's dropped...

But DJ's beware the only really acceptable way to play this classic is from this original USA press or the 1971 UK Ember 45 and that has nothing to do with OVO guidelines.. the other many releases range from an inferior versions, to a downright laughable and unplayable press on Soul City reissue.

UK Bulldog release is a different mix to the 1975 UK reissue. The Soul City UK press is an utter joke, again a different version and awful sound quality complete with scratchy pops, ticks and crackles... amazingly shabby mastering.

So what ever your preference be for the USA or the UK original on GM or Ember, the first press is crucial to maintain DJ credibility and sound quality.

This GM press has in more recent years, has totally disappeared from the market, now very seldom surfacing for sale.

How pleasing to see this "yellow" delight again, after a few years of absence from our website.and the condition is superb.

Condition Report

Fine clean condition throughout just a few minuscule hairlines on the vinyl plays flawless and those distinctive yellow labels as you can see are unblemished.

Winning Bid: **£198.00**

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