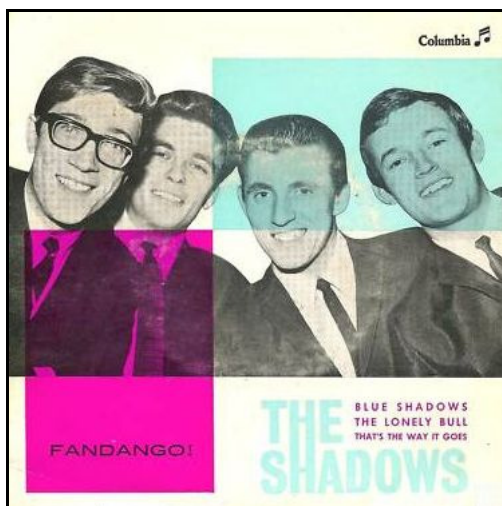
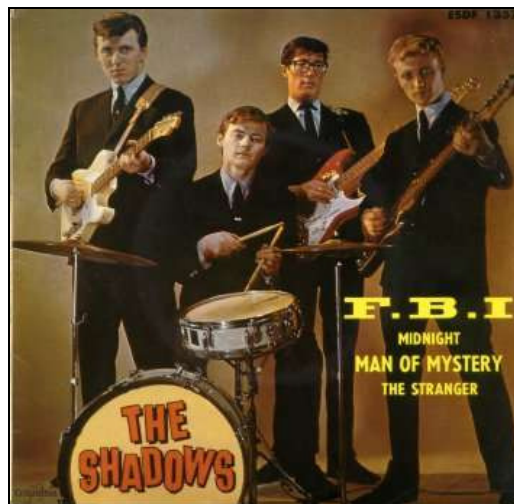


**THE SHADOWS ON RECORD:
EPs FROM
FRANCE, PORTUGAL & SPAIN**

Malcolm Campbell



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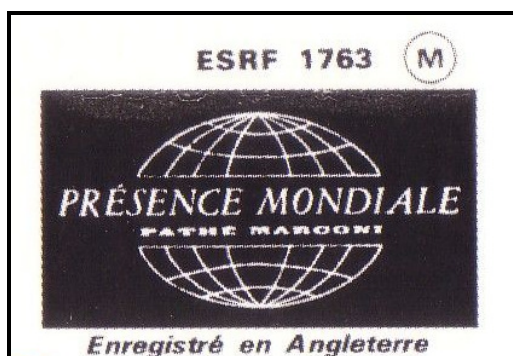
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PART ONE

THE SHADOWS: FRENCH EPs AND SINGLES 1959–1979



INTRODUCTION

The primary aim of this feature is to document and set in context Shadows material on extended players in France spanning the period 1959 to 1967. Over these few years Columbia France produced a run of distinctive issues that went hand in hand with a steady flow of singles — the former with their eye-catching artwork filling the racks of record shops, the latter, more soberly packaged, targeted specifically at the jukebox, an influential ingredient of youth culture that reached the height of its popularity in the first half of the sixties in France as elsewhere.

File 1 is this **Introduction**. **Files 2/3** itemise and describe the **EPs**; a review of the complementary **jukebox s(ingles) titles** is given in **File 4**, which also surveys the successor to the French EP, a run (though not an unbroken run) of **singles with picture sleeves** for the period 1967 through to 1979.

— There are four **appendices (File 5)**: the **first** furnishes **back cover scans of the EPs** surveyed; the **second** provides images together with track-listings of the 57 **EPs credited to both Cliff Richard & The Shadows and to The Shadows** in their own right over the years 1959–1967; the **third** contains a **colour-coded pathfinder to the Shadows recordings** embraced by the EPs and singles over the period; the **fourth** is an **A–Z of all the Shadows titles** examined in this feature.

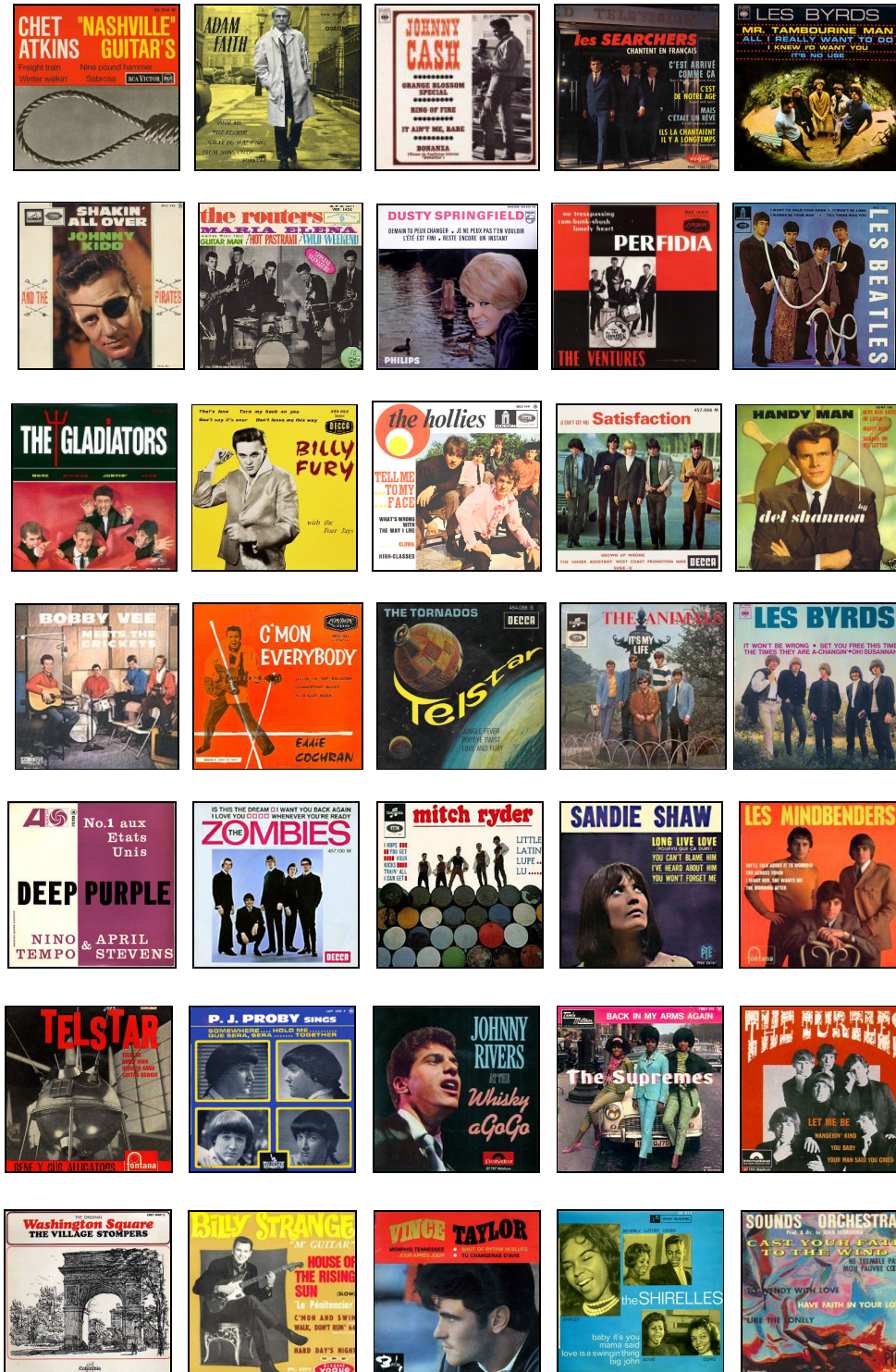
Comparative Material

In the commentary comparisons have regularly been drawn with related product worldwide. Brief discographical details are appended to each item. It is to be assumed throughout that for any given EP it is the date of *first* release together with the catalogue number proper to that release that is specified, no account being taken of reissues. The point is especially relevant in the case of UK issues, which overseas markets very often made their own and, while commonly retaining their titles, naturally applied their own catalogue numbers and in many instances their own artwork as well.



A Johnny Hallyday single from 1961 in its original Vogue sleeve





A collector's heaven: some French EPs

Want to know more about a fascinating part of vinyl history?
France's *Jukebox* has published five lavishly illustrated magazines
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Cliff Richard: Vol. 4 ~ The Shadows: Vol. 5

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GENE VINCENT ROCKS!
AND THE BLUE CAPS ROLL



THE SHADOWS



NANCY SINATRA

THESE BOOTS ARE MADE FOR WALKIN'
RUN FOR YOUR LIFE
DAY TRIPPER
LIES



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COME SEE ABOUT ME
by **THE SUPREMES**



STEVIE WONDER

HIGH HEEL SNEAKERS
MOJOW
PURPLE RAIN DROPS



THE WHO

MY GENERATION
L.A.-L.A.-LIES
MUCH TOO MUCH



VINCE TAYLOR
et ses play-boys

SWEET LITTLE SIXTEEN
LOVE ME
C'MON EVERYBODY
TWENTY FLIGHT ROCK



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THE EPs



Numbers

Over eight successive years France released 18 different exclusively Shadows (/Drifters) EPs, offering 71 different tracks; a further track, *Les Girls*, appeared on a predominantly Cliff Richard issue (**EP 12** below). Of these, 36¹ were also released as singles. As is illustrated in the track-listings for each entry (which relate exclusively to *French* issues²), two of the remainder were featured on earlier Cliff EPs (see under **EP 15**), thirteen on LPs released in earlier or concurrent years, fifteen on later LPs; five (six, if you include *Les Girls*) made no other appearance on vinyl at all.

¹ Including *Nivram*, which was issued as a single outside the period covered by EPs, viz. in 1975, see **S 32** in **File 4**.

² That is, a reference in this setting to, say, 'String Of Hits' will denote the *French* issue of that album.



The List

The EPs are examined under the following main headings:

EP 1

1959 'Teddy Boys' Columbia ESDF 1289

EP 2

1960 'Expresso Bongo' Columbia ESDF 1313

EP 3

1960 'Apache' Columbia ESDF 1336

EP 4

1961 'FBI' Columbia ESDF 1357

EP 5

1961 'The Frightened City' Columbia ESDF 1378

EP 6

1962 'The Savage : Wonderful Land' Columbia ESDF 1404

EP 7

1962 'Dance With The Shadows' Columbia ESDF 1421

EP 8

1962 'Dance With The Shadows Vol. II' Columbia ESDF 1434

EP 9

1962 'Guitar Tango' Columbia ESDF 1437

EP 10

1962 'Little 'B'' Columbia ESDF 1447

EP 11

1963 'Dance On! With The Shadows' Columbia ESDF 1457

EP 12

1963 'Summer Holiday' Columbia ESDF 1468

EP 13

1963 'Atlantis / Foot Tapper' Columbia ESDF 1480

EP 14

1963 'Be-Bop-A-Lula' Columbia ESRF 20002

EP 15

1963 'Feelin' Fine : Don't Be A Fool (With Love)' Columbia ESDF 20004

EP 16

1963 'Shazam ...' ESRF 1402

EP 17

1964 'Theme For Young Lovers' Columbia ESRF 1524

EP 18

1964 'Chattanooga Choo-Choo' Columbia ESRF 1580

EP 19

1965 'Genie ... From 'Aladdin'' Columbia ESRF 1651

EP 20

1966 'Stingray' Columbia ESRF 1724

EP 21

1967 'Late Night Set' Columbia ESRF 1833

Release dates

The main focus will be on each *initial* issue. I am not concerned much at all with re-releases or with changes in record label colour from blue-green to red, save to provide occasional sample illustrations of both categories.

However, something does need to be said about dating across the board. Information on year-releases in various Shadows discographies and record annotation is haphazard at best and often quite arbitrary. The only feasible indicator is the catalogue number: not an infallible guide, but not one to be disregarded either. I confine this discussion to the more notable examples.

(i) **EP 5**, ESDF 1378, 'The Frightened City': two dates are advanced, 1961 and 1962. Now the releases either side of it, Chubby Checker's 'Let's Do The Twist' and Helen Shapiro's 'Don't Treat Me Like A Child' sit fairly and squarely in (late) 1961, and this is where I have entered ESDF 1378 in the absence of clear evidence to the contrary.³

³ As it happens a Cliff Richard EP in the close vicinity poses a problem. There is no reason in principle why it should affect the dating just discussed, but it does highlight potential traps which discographers would do well to be aware of at least. ESDF **1376**, 'The Young Ones', is usually assigned a release date of 1962, and this is plausible given the fact that the UK album of that name did not appear until mid-December 1961 (1962 in France, and then in mono only) with the variant version of the single coming

(ii) **EP 6**, ESDF 1404, 'The Savage : Wonderful Land' is dated to 1961 by *Jukebox* Vol. 5 (see above), which is of course a year too early.⁴ Splendid as the pictorial element is, dating is sometimes disconcertingly erratic (and not only for Cliff and The Shadows).

(iii) **EP 10**, ESDF 1447, 'Little 'B'': *Jukebox* gets it right here, Mr Acker Bilk and a number of other contiguous issues securely dating this to 1962; not 1963 as sometimes given.

(iv) **EP 9**, ESDF 1437, 'Guitar Tango', has often been allotted a release date of 1963. An Australian issue with the same title and front cover design certainly belongs to that year (Columbia SEGO 70063), and this may have influenced discographers in the present case. In fact, our EP is directly preceded in the Columbia ESDF series by Cliff Richard's 'I'm Lookin' Out The Window' and directly followed by his 'It'll Be Me', both from 1962.

(v) ESRF issues in particular have proved troublesome, not least **EP 16**, see the comment there. Other noteworthy cases: **EP 20** 'Stingray', preceded immediately by Cliff's 'In The Country' belongs to 1966 not 1965, while the last issue, **EP 21** 'Late Night Set', is flanked by Richard Anthony's 'Hello Pussycat' and 'Peter and Gordon chantent en français' and so should be dated to 1967 not 1966. Dates for initial *re-releases* with prefix ESRF are as follows:

[EP 13]	'Atlantis : Foot Tapper'	ESRF 1405	1963
[EP 3]	'Apache'	ESRF 1425	1963
[EP 7]	'Dance With The Shadows'	ESRF 1428	1963
[EP 4]	'FBI'	ESRF 1432	1963
[EP 10]	'Little 'B''	ESRF 1443	1963
[EP 5]	'The Frightened City'	ESRF 1445	1963
[EP 6]	'The Savage : Wonderful Land'	ESRF 1459	1963
[EP 11]	'Dance On! With The Shadows'	ESRF 1763	1966
[EP 8]	'Dance With The Shadows Vol. II'	ESRF 1781	1966

Appendix 2

provides an illustrated run-down of all French Cliff Richard and Shadows EPs
— ESDF alone; ESDF/ESRF; ESRF alone — in order of release.

Popularity — and rapid decline

The pace of releases quickened in 1962, and in 1963 the format reached its peak with half a dozen freshly compiled issues reinforced by an even greater number of re-releases put out in rapid succession. From 1964 through to 1967 there was a marked decline which the re-release programme of 1966 cannot have done much to arrest, as by this time compilation albums offering a decent number of tracks for your money were beginning to come down in price. To survive in such a climate EPs would have had to come up with something extra special and do so consistently, most effectively perhaps by providing

out in January. A record company can of course schedule a record for release and not always release it on the date planned (particularly in the Christmas month) for any number of reasons. On the other hand, it is not impossible that France was quick off the mark given the advance publicity surrounding the film, which was considerable.

⁴ Similar carelessness: Cliff Richard ESDF 1272 (*Mean Streak* etc.), dated to 1958.

only original material which would not be made available elsewhere for the foreseeable future. In the event, picture singles were waiting in the wings, blending pre-released material with novel tracks, many of which would not reappear until the advent of Compact Disc.

The behaviour of jukebox singles on the other hand was rather different. 1961 through to 1963 were strong years for the medium; there was a slowing in 1964 and an isolated issue in 1965, then nothing at all, the first conventional French Shadows single surfacing with the release of *Tomorrow's Cancelled* towards the end of 1967.

Scope and artwork

The compilers at or working on behalf of French Columbia had one overriding aim which they pursued consistently for the greater part of the sixties: to release product that stood out from the crowd, the crowd being the range of countries that enthusiastically marketed the music of The Shadows. Most territories varied the content and artwork of the string of releases to some degree, but no overseas company went to such extreme lengths to avoid adopting the programme of any given primary EP release or (with one exception⁵) its artwork: not for France an identical or slightly doctored front cover shot from the album 'Out Of The Shadows' or 'Dance With The Shadows', even if that meant putting on display (on six occasions) representations of a motley selection of guitars, however inapposite they might be.

You can compare and contrast for yourself the different approach to programming by looking through the e-book on UK EPs elsewhere on this website. Most tellingly of all, those releases with the biggest take-up internationally, the 'themed' EPs, are fragmented or ignored altogether by French Columbia: see the comments under **EP 11** on 'The Shadows' (1961 debut EP), 'The Boys' and 'Los Shadows', adding most notably the later 'Rhythm & Greens' and 'Thunderbirds are Go!'. It has to be said that, taken as a whole, presentationally these French Shadows EPs shine. What they inevitably failed to do amidst all the juggling and preoccupation with doing things differently is keep a tight grip on the group's output over the years in question, only adopting a more (but not wholly) orderly and structured approach with the adoption of a format already successfully taken on board by certain European countries, the commercially available single in a picture sleeve.

⁵ The closest approximation to a UK prototype is the front cover shot of **EP 7**, but even that is given an entirely different colouring, see the note there.

Over To Digital

A selection of numbers from French EPs with liner notes by Rob Bradford can be found on See For Miles SEECD 375, 1993 (reissued 1997), pictured below. The 2004 Magic Records CD box set 'Complete French Sixties EP Collection', though handsomely presented, is unsatisfactory on a number of counts, indeed thoroughly flawed: see *CD Guide* 18–21. The same goes for Magic's 'The Complete 60's & 70's Singles Collection' from 2005.

