

Malcolm Campbell/ Dave Burke

Driving Guitars: The Music Of The Ventures In The Sixties 2008

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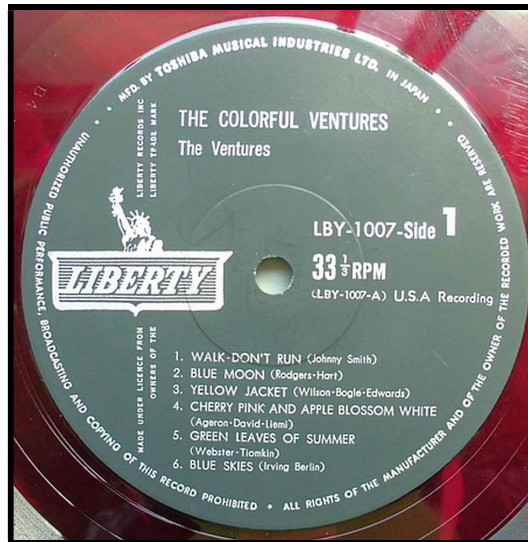
1962

JAPAN

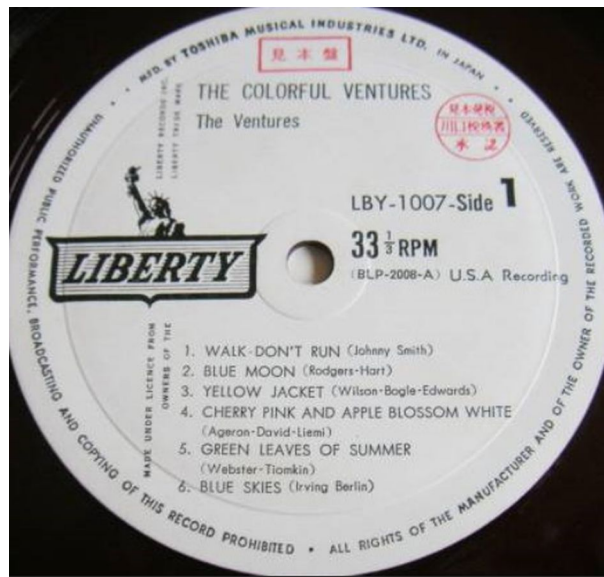
#01

The Colorful Ventures, Liberty LP-LBY 1007





1962 Promo



Toshiba's releases of Ventures' product on the Liberty label begins here in April 1962, with a modified version of the fourth album on Dolton from September 1961. Their growing reputation as a force to be reckoned with in the field of instrumental music — not to mention the record sales accumulated in North America and beyond — could hardly have passed unnoticed; word of a tour of US military bases, which hit Tokyo 28 May, with the popular Bobby Vee as one of its headliners and with Don Wilson and Bob Bogle in tow (Halterman 75f.), may have played a part (Vee himself had half a dozen singles put out by Toshiba on Liberty in the course of 1962).

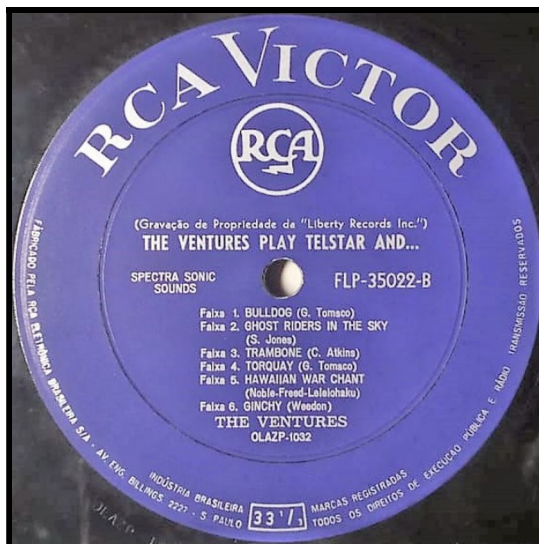
LIBY 1007 attracts a spot in this survey because the original album loses one of its tracks, *Bluer Than Blue*, by far the weakest of the set as it happens (see C/B 59/61.15-16), to be replaced unceremoniously and prominently by the hit *Walk, Don't Run*. Japan had taken that on board before, to no effect, as a single, in November 1960, on the Top Rank International label (JAR-417). The present track listing was replicated on reissues in 1965 and (CD) 2006, while on other reissues *Bluer Than Blue* was reinstated.

1963

BRAZIL

#02

The Ventures Play Telstar ..., RCA Victor FLP-35022



- A1 Telstar*
- A2 Apache*
- A3 Raw-Hide**
- A4 Beyond The Reef**
- A5 The Lonely Bull*
- A6 Tequila*
- B1 Bulldog**
- B2 Ghost Riders In The Sky**
- B3 Trambone**
- B4 Torquay***
- B5 Hawaiian War Chant***
- B6 Ginchy**

* ... *Play Telstar* 1963

** *Another Smash!!!* 1961

*** *The Ventures* 1961

RCA Victor Brazil borrowed the (very commonly used) front cover design from the US album, but confined itself to four of its numbers, with Raw-Hide, Bulldog and Ginchy affording the selection a degree of animation, and the stylish Trambone making a solitary appearance in this survey. There was a different (and more apt) design for RCA's 1963 single The Lonely Bull/ Telstar [B-side, despite the illustration], FC-55003, which invites comparison with the images found on the UK LP *The Sound Of The Tornados* and EP *The Tornados* (both 1962).



#03

Pipeline, RCA Victor FLP-35029



- A1 Caravan*
- A2 The Ninth Wave**
- A3 Party In Laguna**
- A4 Barefoot Venture**
- A5 The Heavies**
- A6 Cruncher**
- B1 Pipeline**
- B2 Diamonds**
- B3 Windy And Warm**
- B4 Damaged Goods***
- B5 Changing Tides**
- B6 Tarantella****

* *Bobby Vee Meets The Ventures* 1963

** *Surfing* 1963

*** B-Single, Dolton 78, 1963

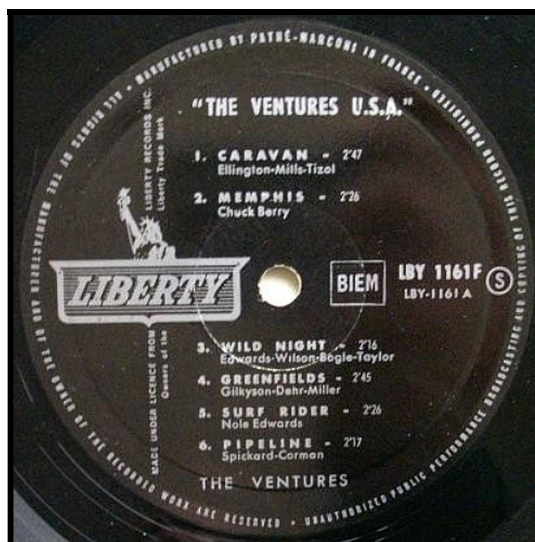
**** B-Single, Liberty 10101 Q, Italy 1963

No representation from the 1960 album *Walk, Don't Run*, the front cover image of which is mirrored here. This is an abridged *Surfing* (no Ten Over, Surf Rider, The Lonely Sea, all impressive examples of group-sourced compositions), making way for Caravan (the Bobby Vee-sourced version becoming one of the staples of compilations), together with the choice Damaged Goods (see next entry) and Tarantella (see Introduction; **EP Entry 47**; and C/B 160-161/63.27-28).

FRANCE

#04

The Ventures U.S.A., Liberty LBY 1161F



- A1 Caravan*
- A2 Memphis**
- A3 Wild Night*
- A4 Greenfields***
- A5 Surf Rider****
- A6 Pipeline*****
- B1 Damaged Goods*****
- B2 Diamonds****
- B3 Windy And Warm****
- B4 Orange Fire***
- B5 Ten Over****
- B6 The Heavies*****

* *Bobby Vee Meets The Ventures* 1963

** *Let's Go!* 1963

*** *The Colorful Ventures* 1961

**** *Surfing* 1963

***** B-Single, Dolton 78, 1963

A selection leaning heavily on the *Surfing* album, and none the worse for that. Wild Night would prove to be a relative rarity, while Orange Fire served as a fine example of the group's earlier output. The compiler was really on the ball: the uncommon single track Damaged Goods (see **EP Entry 42**) had seen the light of day only the month before, in June.

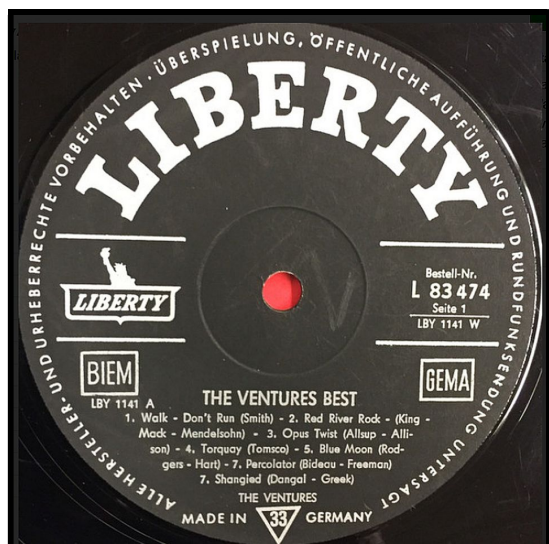
The front cover image, carried over into the CD version issued by Magic Records in 1999 (5244132), offered an early example of the intense French interest in aerial flight, space flight in particular. For ample illustration see **EP Entries 34, 56-57, 115-116**. A further Magic CD (*Surfing*, 3930396, 2004) with its bonus tracks has much in common with this *Ventures U.S.A.* compilation:



GERMANY

#05

The Ventures Best, Liberty L83 474 (LBY 1141 W Netherlands)



A1	Walk, Don't Run*
A2	Red River Rock**
A3	Opus Twist***
A4	Torquay****
A5	Blue Moon*****
A6	Percolator**
A7	Shanghied***
B1	Gringo***
B2	Guitar Twist***
B3	Detour****
B4	Red Top*****
B5	Mr Moto*****
B6	Lullaby Of The Leaves*****
B7	White Silver Sands*****

*	<i>Walk, Don't Run</i> 1960
**	<i>... Play Telstar</i> 1963
***	<i>Twist With The Ventures</i> 1962
****	<i>The Ventures</i> 1961
*****	<i>The Colorful Ventures</i> 1961
*****	<i>Going To The Ventures' Dance Party!</i> 1962
*****	<i>Another Smash!!!</i> 1961

Generously running to seven tracks per side with neatly formatted sharply-etched front cover design, an exceptionally fine selection with standouts like Detour, Mr Moto and the Wailers-inspired Shanghied, the headlining classic single reinforced by the similiary styled Blue Moon and Lullaby Of The Leaves.

ITALY

#06

Listen To The Ventures, Liberty LBY 1153-Q



- A1 Pipeline*
- A2 Born To Lose**
- A3 Diamonds*
- A4 Lovesick Blues**
- A5 Changing Tides*
- A6 Caravan***
- B1 The Ninth Wave*
- B2 I Walk The Line**
- B3 I Can't Stop Loving You**
- B4 San Antonio Rose**
- B5 Oh Lonesome Me**
- B6 The Lonely Sea*

Sources:

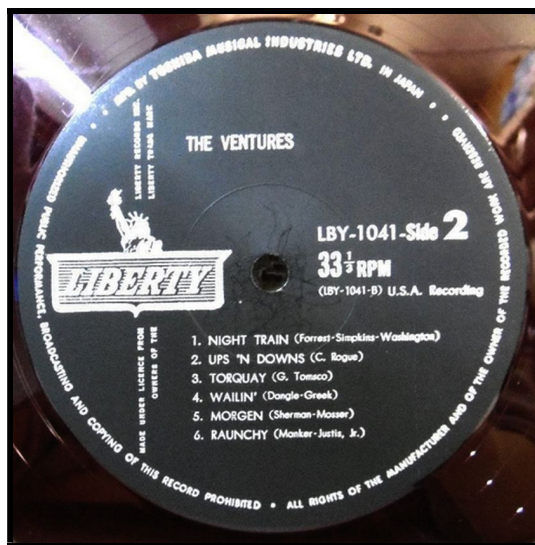
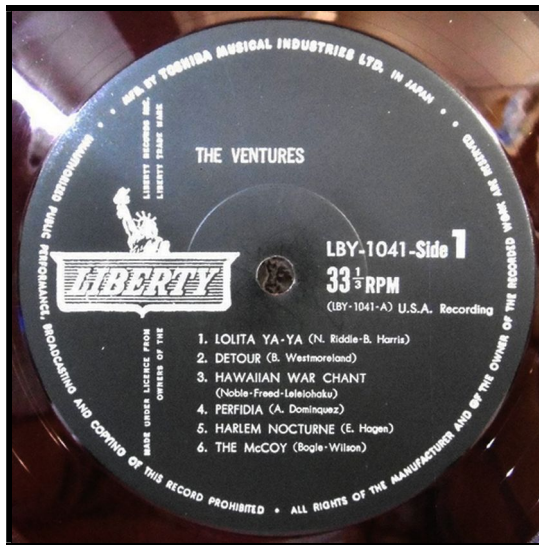
- * *Surfing* 1963
- ** ... *Play The Country Classics* 1963
- *** *Bobby Vee Meets The Ventures* 1963

A group picture familiar from the 1961 album *The Ventures*, but no tracks are accessed from that. Aside from Caravan, this is just a selection from two albums with two distinct stylings, not an especially comfortable one to listen to from start to finish. Italian record-buyers were treated to the whole of the Country set (as *I Walk The Line*) in 1970 (Liberty LIB-LP 908A).

JAPAN

#07

The Ventures, Liberty LBY-1041



- A1 Lolita Ya-Ya: see below
- A2 Detour**
- A3 Hawaiian War Chant**
- A4 Perfidia**
- A5 Harlem Nocturne**
- A6 The McCoy*
- B1 Night Train*
- B2 Ups 'n Downs**
- B3 Torquay**
- B4 Wailin'**
- B5 Morgen*
- B6 Raunchy*

This compilation was released early on in February 1963 **(1)**, and appears to be an attempt to catch up partially at least with the group's first two albums, *Walk, Don't Run* (1960) and *The Ventures* (1961), neither of which saw Japanese release in their entirety until after the 60s. With the 1962 Dolton single Lolita Ya-Ya heading the pack, four tracks were lifted from the former (*) and seven from the latter (**). At least it aired the second big hit single Perfidia, admittedly taken up at this point by a narrow circle of record buyers.

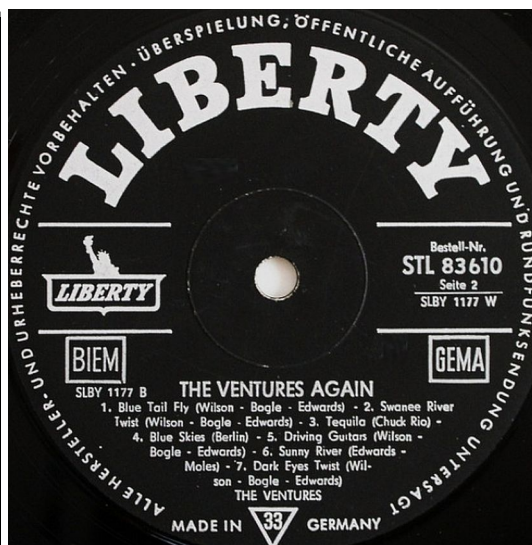
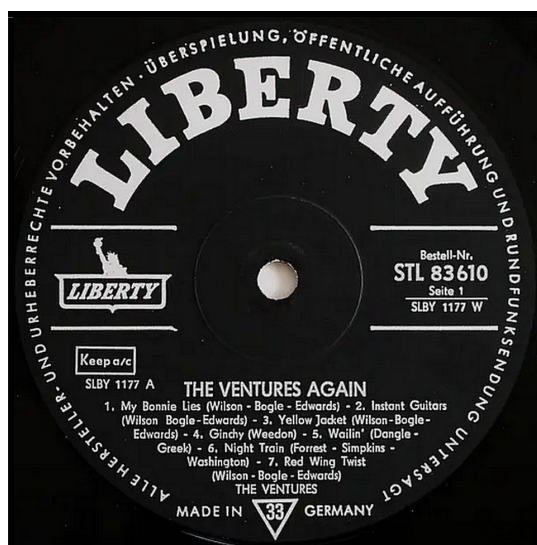
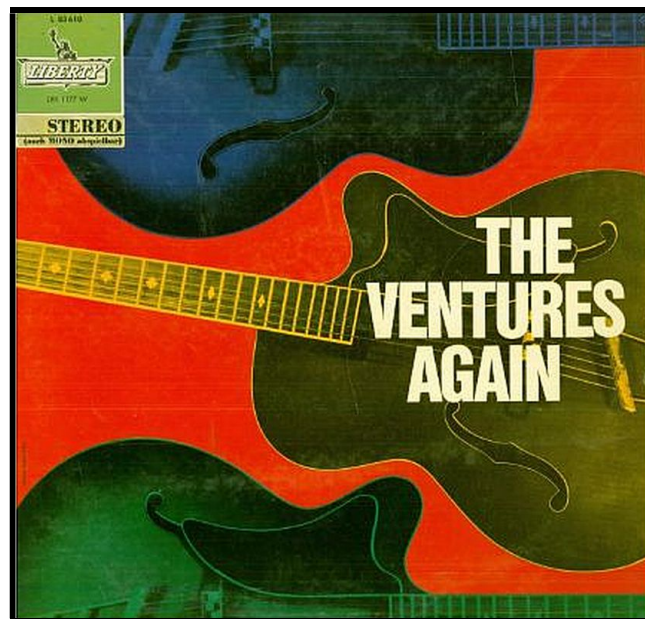
(1) An identical selection carrying the same title and front cover image has figured in the occasional Ventures Discography (with no mention of LBY-1041) as 'SLBY [sic: viz. stereo] 1041 South Africa November 1961'. I can find no trace of this: the back cover of the Japan release gives no indication of its existence.

1964

GERMANY

#08

The Ventures Again, Liberty SLBY 83610/SML 73610
(SLBY 1177 W Netherlands)



A1 My Bonnie Lies*
 A2 Instant Guitars*
 A3 Yellow Jacket**
 A4 Ginchy***
 A5 Wailin'****
 A6 Night Train*****
 A7 Red Wing Twist*
 B1 Blue Tail Fly*
 B2 Swanee River Twist*
 B3 Tequila*****
 B4 Blue Skies**
 B5 Driving Guitars*****
 B6 Sunny River*****
 B7 Dark Eyes Twist*

* *The Ventures Twist Party Vol.2* 1962
 ** *The Colorful Ventures* 1961
 *** *Another Smash!!!* 1961
 **** *The Ventures* 1961
 ***** *Walk, Don't Run* 1960
 ***** ...*Play Telstar* 1963
 ***** *Twist With The Ventures* 1962

Another German produced 14-track selection ('Again' harking back to the 'Best' selection of the year before), eight of which draw upon the two 1962 *Twist* albums, a diverting program full of raw energy enriched by the two of the most outstanding *Colorful* numbers. The Netherlands had issued a series of four *Twist*-sourced EPs in 1962 (see **EP Entries 16-19**), releases commonly for sale in Germany, to which country they are sometimes mistakenly credited.

ITALY

#09

The Magnificent Ventures, Liberty LBY 1239-Q



- A1 Walk, Don't Run '64*
- A2 The Cruel Sea**
- A3 The Pink Panther Theme**
- A4 Only The Young**
- A5 Runnin' Wild**
- A6 Scratchin'**
- B1 Fugitive**
- B2 Apple Racer***
- B3 Walkin' With Pluto**
- B4 Journey To The Stars**
- B5 Tall Cool One**
- B6 Rap City*

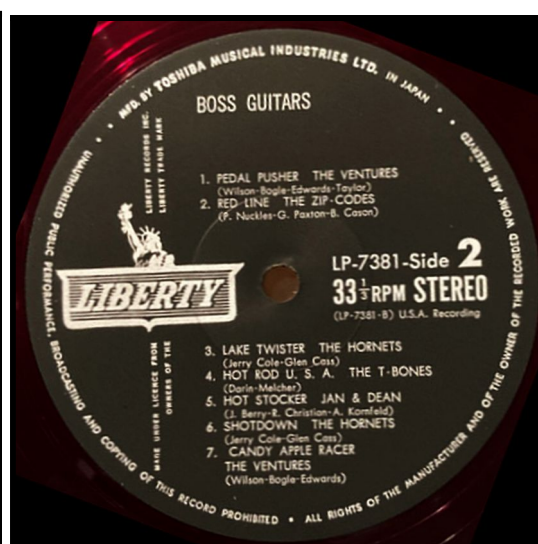
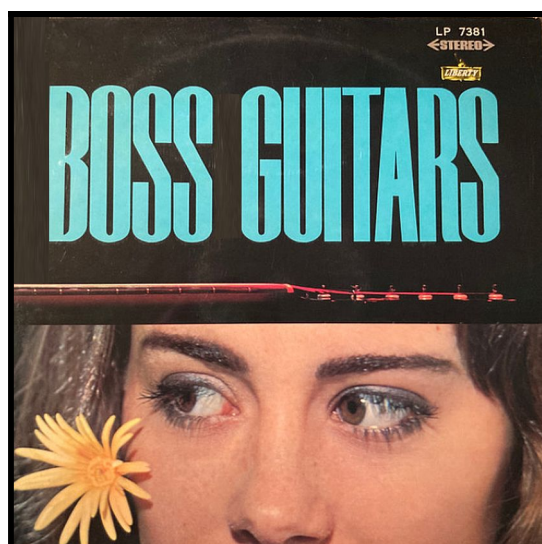
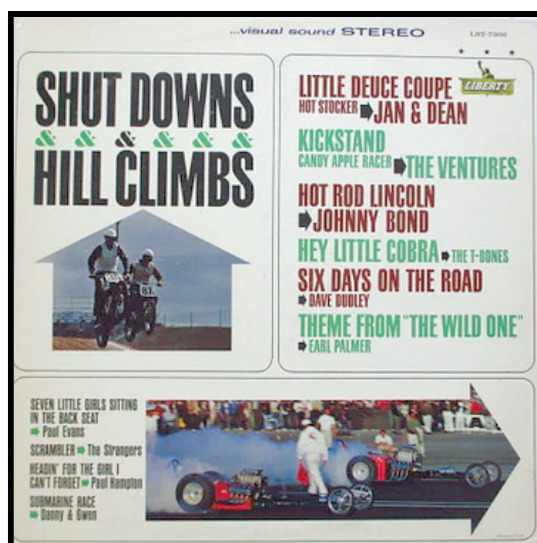
* *Walk, Don't Run Vol. 2* 1964

** *The Fabulous Ventures* 1964

*** 1964 Liberty Various Artists album, see below

This release serves for the most part as a showcase for the 1964 *Fabulous* album which lived up to its title with numbers like The Cruel Sea, Fugitive and Scratchin', but its desirability as a collector's item was assured by the inclusion of the rare Candy Apple Racer, a number recorded in 1962 and set aside to appear in the first instance on the 1964 Various Artists album *Shut Downs And Hill Climbs* (Liberty LRP-7366) along with the group's Kickstand, both of which made up a Japanese single in June 1965; then there was a Japanese Various Artists album *Boss Guitars*, which featured Candy Apple Racer along with Kickstand and Pedal Pusher (Liberty LP-7381, 1965). For the background see C/B 116-117/62.27-28; C/B 237-238/65.23, where however the reference to the *Shut Downs* album is missed.

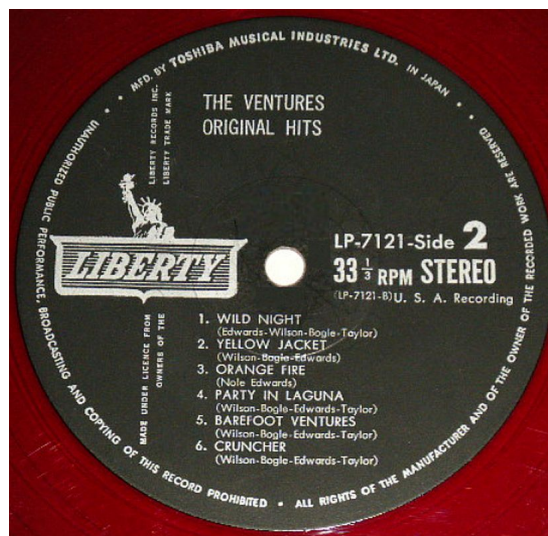
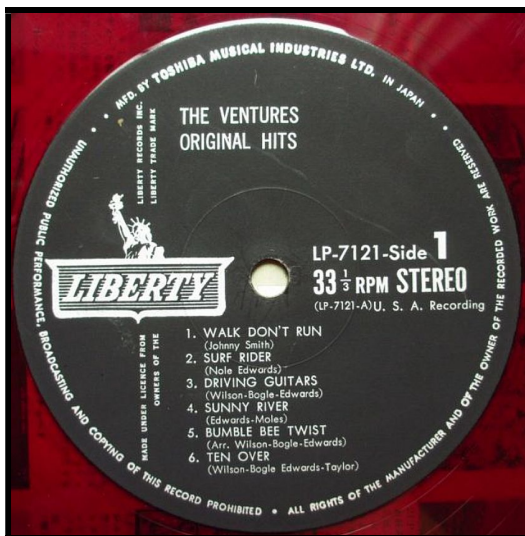
Front cover pic: see **EP Introduction: Artwork Japan 2.**



JAPAN

#10

The Ventures Original Hits, Liberty LP-7121



- A1 Walk, Don't Run*
- A2 Surf Rider**
- A3 Driving Guitars***
- A4 Sunny River***
- A5 Bumble Bee Twist***
- A6 Ten Over**
- B1 Wild Night****
- B2 Yellow Jacket*****
- B3 Orange Fire*****
- B4 Party In Laguna**
- B5 Barefoot Venture**
- B6 Cruncher**

- * *Walk, Don't Run* 1960
- ** *Surfing* 1963
- *** *Twist With The Ventures* 1962
- **** *Bobby Vee Meets The Ventures* 1963
- ***** *The Colorful Ventures* 1961

The first pressing to feature the Hankake obi or half-obi. Japan was showing signs of waking up to the Ventures' music (with the boisterous *Wild Night* and *Party In Laguna* (1) taken on board!) as a prelude to the truly spectacular breakthrough in 1965, 1964 seeing the release of *Surfing* (of which this January release provides a taster) and *(The) Ventures In Space*, together with an EP in August (*Walk, Don't Run* ['64]) and a couple of singles (*Walk, Don't Run* in March, *Pipeline* in July).

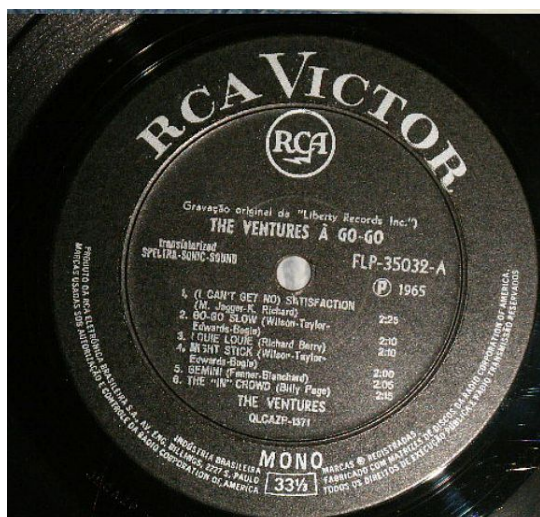
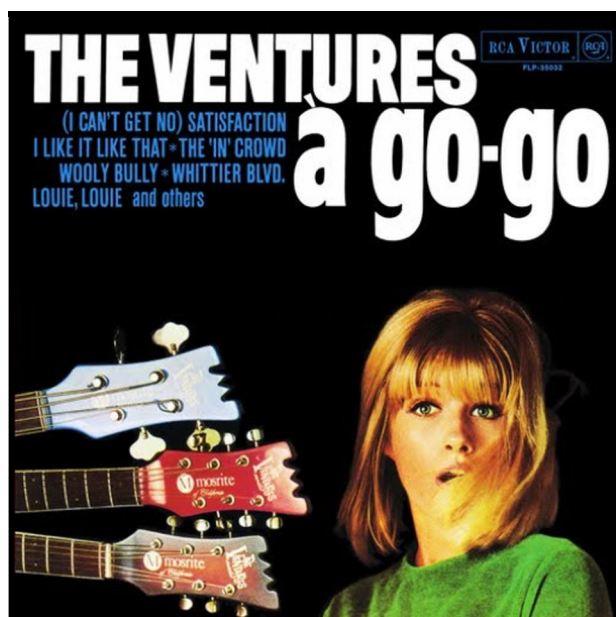
(1) See for both C/B 132/63.9, C/B 138/63.13.

1965

BRAZIL

#11

The Ventures À Go-Go, RCA Victor FLP-35032

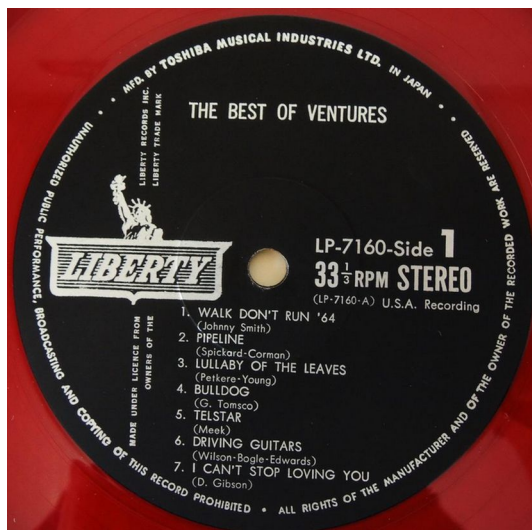
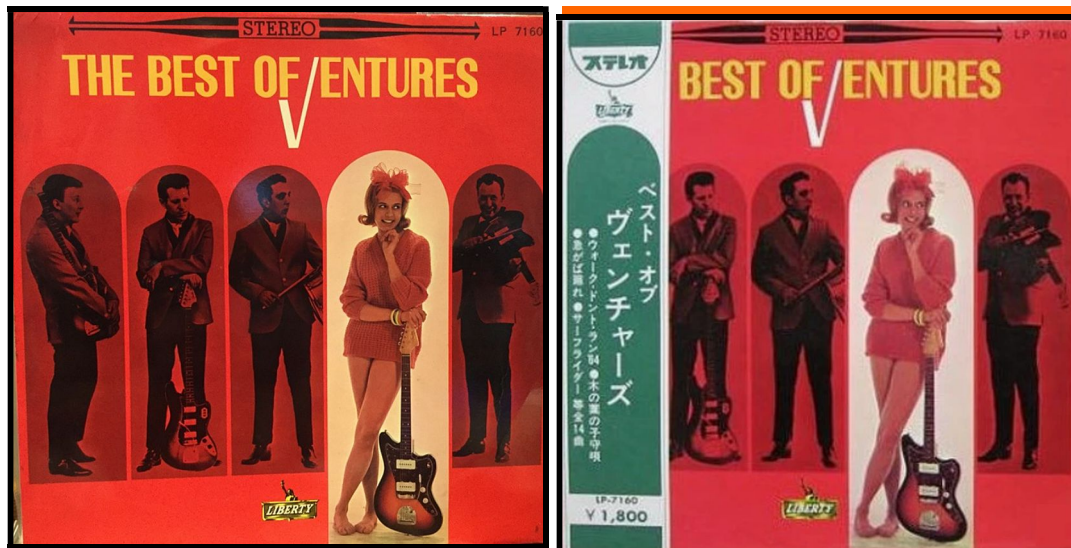


This is the standard September 1965 album (employing the front cover image of the 1965 album *The Ventures Knock Me Out!!*) with one substitution, La Bamba replaced by Gemini, a US A-single (Dolton 311, October 1965), which recurred the following year on EPs and singles from elsewhere, see **EP Entry 114**, and C/B 237/65.23. For a more radical reworking of *À Go-Go* see LP-7445, Japan 1966, **#18** below).

JAPAN

#12

The Best of Ventures, Liberty LP-7160; reissue LP-8148, 1966



A1 Walk, Don't Run '64*
 A2 Pipeline**
 A3 Lullaby Of The Leaves***
 A4 Bulldog***
 A5 Telstar****
 A6 Driving Guitars*****
 A7 I Can't Stop Loving You*****
 B1 Walk, Don't Run*****
 B2 Loco-Motion*****
 B3 Surf Rider**
 B4 Penetration*****
 B5 Runaway*****
 B6 Lolita Ya-Ya*****
 B7 Lonely Heart***

* *Walk, Don't Run* Vol. 2 1964
 ** *Surfing* 1963
 *** *Another Smash!!!* 1961
 **** *... Play Telstar* 1963
 ***** *Twist With The Ventures* 1962
 ***** *... Play The Country Classics* 1963
 ***** *Walk, Don't Run* 1960
 ***** *Going To The Ventures' Dance Party* 1962
 ***** *(The) Ventures In Space* 1964
 ***** *Let's Go!* 1963

February saw the release of this extremely varied selection, pulling in numbers from ten different albums marketed over five consecutive years, housing the two very different versions of Walk, Don't Run, The Ventures' having received a rapturous reception on their arrival in Japan the previous month to embark upon a hugely successful concert tour (see Halterman 117f. for a detailed account). From 1965 on there would be a mass of Ventures' product flooding the market: see the sketch in C/B 211-212/65.5-6.

#13 *Caravan, Liberty LP-7273*



It is easy to see the rationale behind this August release. In the interests of speed and economy, no doubt, the *Play Telstar* set, already made available in Japan in 1963 as a 10-inch, missing Green Onions and Never On Sunday, had Last Night removed to make way for Caravan (1963 version), heading the selection. This number had enjoyed a rapturous reaction in the concerts earlier in the year, and would go on to become one of the group's signature pieces, clocking up enormous sales as a June single later in the year, released in advance of the group's July tour. The end result: a revised album with an evocative large-scale portrait of the group onstage in Japan, the kind of striking image that graced the cover of the UK's *Shadow Music* in 1966. Of equal if not greater moment was the April release of the live album *The Ventures In Japan*, which, aside from closing with a powerful Caravan that clocked in at over seven minutes (see C/B 217/65.9), had the group on show in a striking Japanese setting with a superb back cover image of a concert scene:



It is worth adding that Toshiba's marketing division was now in full swing: simultaneously released was a pre-recorded cassette with different but effective artwork:



1966

ARGENTINA

#14

Los Ventures, Liberty LIB 1030



- A1 Gone, Gone, Gone*
- A2 Walk, Don't Run '64**
- A3 Slaughter On Tenth Avenue*
- A4 Stranger On The Shore**
- A5 Pedal Pusher**
- A6 I Feel Fine*
- B1 Diamond Head**
- B2 She's Not There*
- B3 Sha La La*
- B4 Blue Star**
- B5 Tomorrow's Love*
- B6 Peach Fuzz**

* *The Ventures Knock Me Out!* 1965

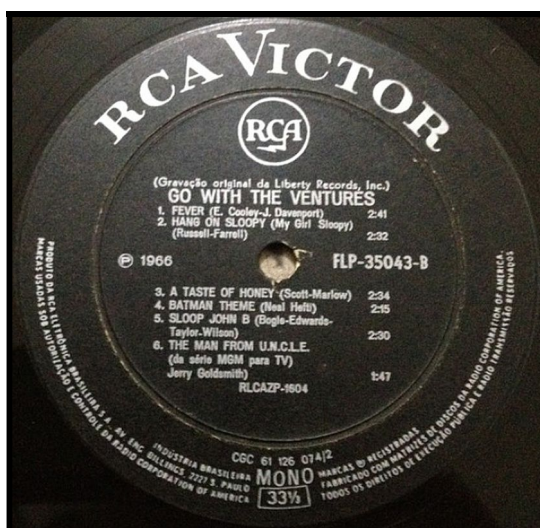
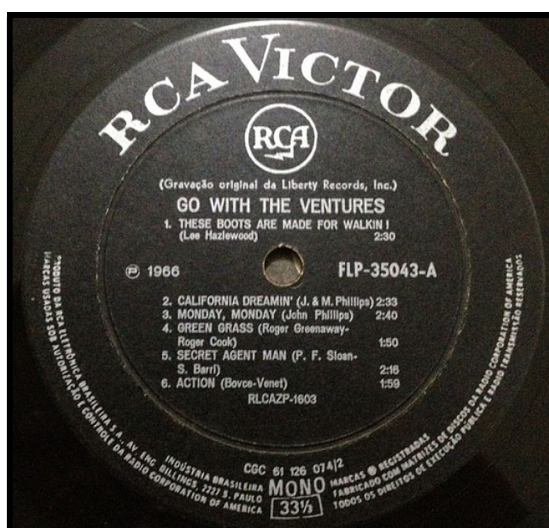
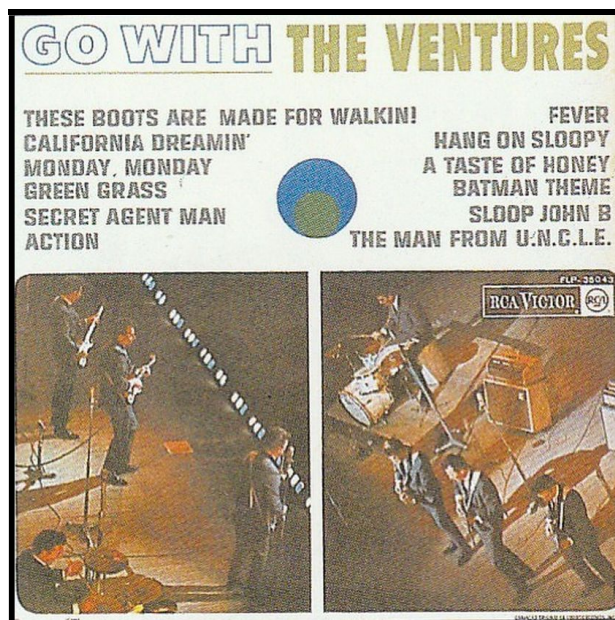
** *Walk, Don't Run Vol. 2* 1964

Picture from the 1965 album *The Ventures Knock Me Out!*, tracks from which make up one half of this release; titles in Spanish with English equivalents.

BRAZIL

#15

Go With The Ventures, RCA Victor FLP-35043



- A1 These Boots Are Made For Walkin’*
- A2 California Dreamin’*
- A3 Monday, Monday*
- A4 Green Grass*
- A5 Secret Agent Man**
- A6 Action***
- B1 Fever***
- B2 Hang On Sloopy***
- B3 A Taste Of Honey***
- B4 Batman Theme**
- B5 Sloop John B*
- B6 The Man From U.N.C.L.E.**

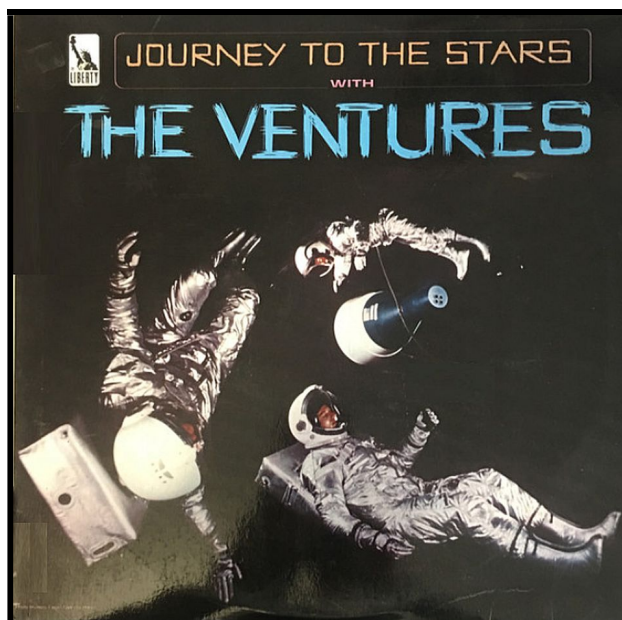
- * *Go With The Ventures* 1966
- ** *The Ventures (Batman Theme)* 1966
- *** *Where The Action Is* 1966

Purely 1966 product, a decent selection of cover versions which does find room for five tracks from the nominated album, let down by the inept cover copied from the 1965 *The Ventures On Stage*. Cf. the aberration on the Mexican EP entitled *The Ventures On Stage*, Liberty/ Musart EL 65044, 1966, equipped with four *studio* tracks: **EP Entry 126**.

FRANCE

#16

Journey To The Stars, Liberty LBY-1340 F



- A1 Journey To The Stars*
- A2 Nutty**
- A3 00-711***
- A4 Runnin' Wild*
- A5 La Bamba****
- A6 Night Stick****
- B1 Action Plus**
- B2 Go*****
- B3 Ad-Venture*****
- B4 3's A Crowd**
- B5 Frankie And Johnnie*****
- B6 Walkin' With Pluto*

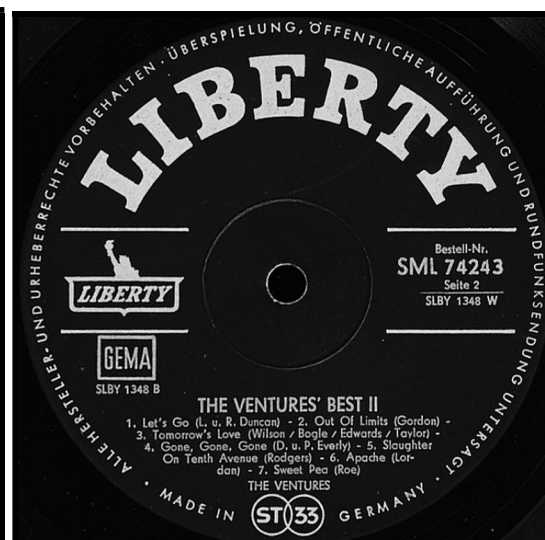
- * *The Fabulous Ventures* 1964
- ** *Where The Action Is* 1966
- *** *The Ventures (Batman Theme)* 1966
- **** *The Ventures À Go-Go* 1965
- ***** *Go With The Ventures* 1966

French interest in space exploration generates a flamboyant looking cover, but aside from the title track there is no thematic unity in this stray collection (the closing number is not space-related, see C/B 189/64.14). France showed no interest in *(The) Ventures In Space* album in its entirety until Magic Records committed it to CD in 2005 (3930518), commendably reproducing the striking front cover image of the Dolton original.

GERMANY

#17

The Ventures' Best 2, Liberty SML 74243
(SLBY 1348 Netherlands));
reissue 1967, Liberty SML 74 243



A1 Green Grass*
 A2 Ginza Lights*
 A3 Penetration**
 A4 Scratchin'***
 A5 Over The Mountain, Across The Sea****
 A6 Caravan*****
 B1 Let's Go!****
 B2 Out Of Limits**
 B3 Tomorrow's Love*****
 B4 Gone, Gone, Gone*****
 B5 Slaughter On Tenth Avenue*****
 B6 Apache*****
 B7 Sweet Pea*****

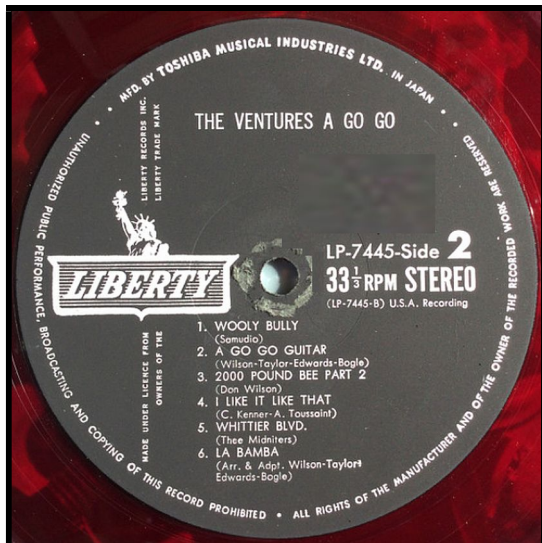
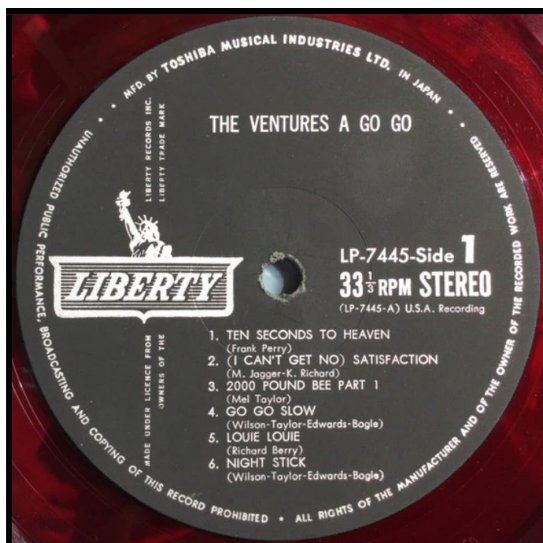
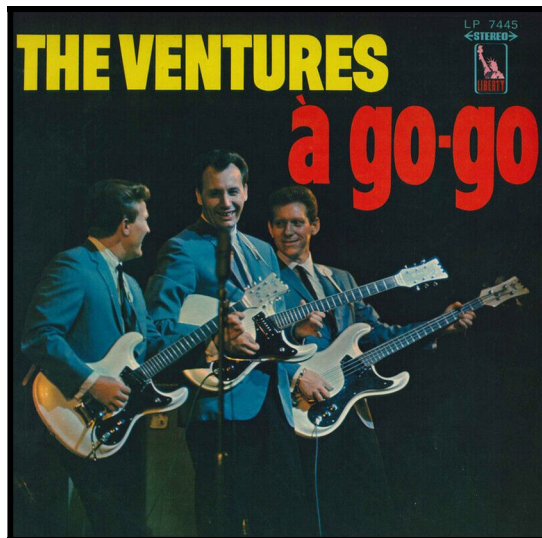
* *Go With The Ventures* 1966
 ** *(The) Ventures In Space* 1964
 *** *The Fabulous Ventures* 1964
 **** *Let's Go!* 1963
 ***** *Bobby Vee Meets The Ventures* 1963
 ***** *The Ventures Knock Me Out!* 1965
 ***** *... Play Telstar* 1963
 ***** *Wild Things!* 1966

Mercifully, the lightweight opener is followed up at once by the dazzling Ginza Lights in this wide ranging selection, which focuses on some less obvious choices, effectively capturing the group in mellower mood with Over The Mountain, Across The Sea (closely following Rex Garvin's arrangement for Johnnie and Joe's hit of 1957) and Tomorrow's Love. And for this writer the bright and breezy Sweet Pea is one of the highlights of *Wild Things!*

JAPAN

#18

The Ventures À Go-Go, Liberty LP-7445



- A1 Ten Seconds To Heaven*
- A2 Satisfaction**
- A3 2000 Pound Bee Part 1***
- A4 Go Go Slow**
- A5 Louie Louie**
- A6 Night Stick**
- B1 Wooly Bully**
- B2 À Go Go Guitar**
- B3 2000 Pound Bee Part 2***
- B4 I Like It Like That**
- B5 Whittier Blvd**
- B6 La Bamba**

* Ten Seconds *aka* The Stranger, A-Single Dolton 308, 1965

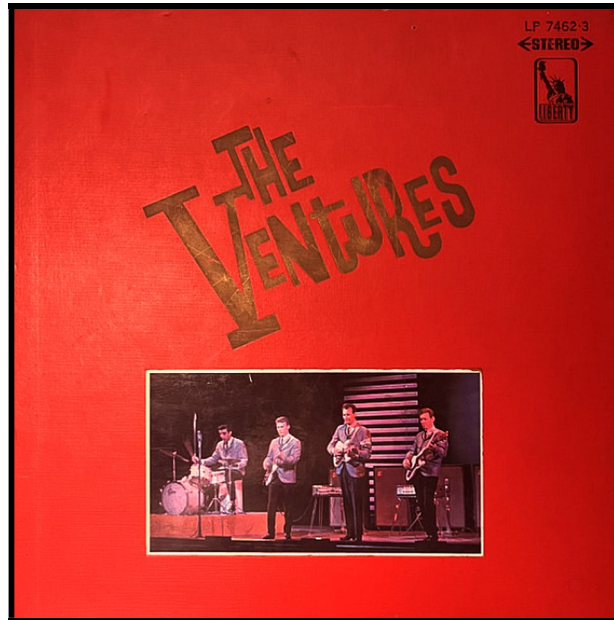
** *The Ventures À Go-Go* 1965

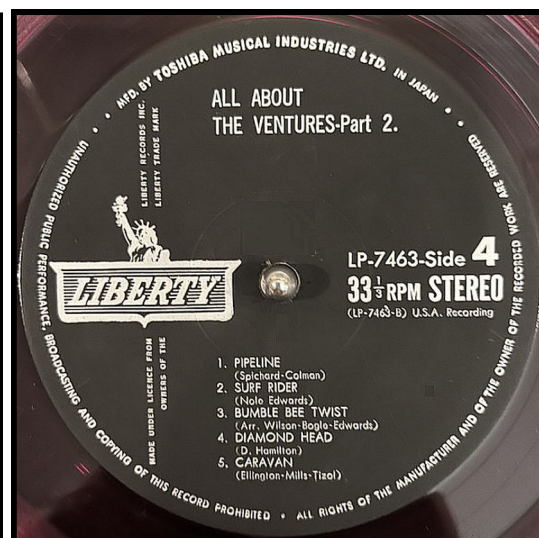
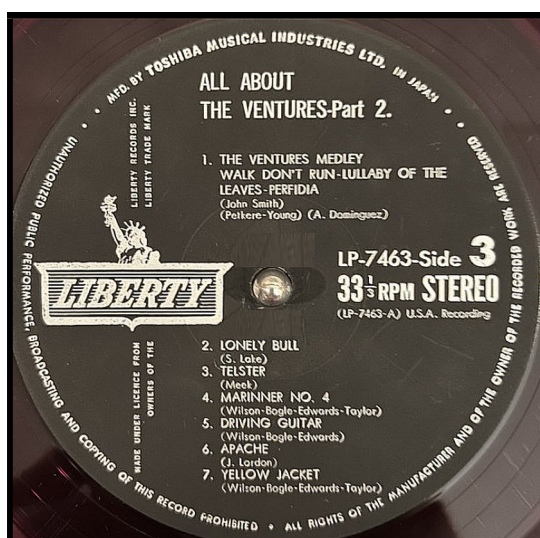
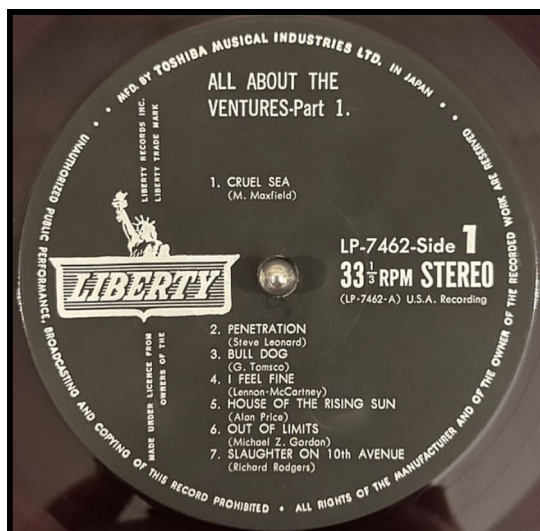
*** A/B-Single, Dolton 67, 1962

A strong collection indeed. Largely the standard *À Go-Go* album but three of its numbers are discarded (The 'In' Crowd, À Go-Go Dancer and The Swingin' Creeper) in favour of three non-album tracks. Ten Seconds ... had appeared as a Japanese A-Single in November 1965: for more on this number see C/B 236-237/65.22-23 and **EP Entries 77 and especially 154**. For the Bee single see C/B 110/62.23.

#19

All About The Ventures, Liberty LP-7462/7463

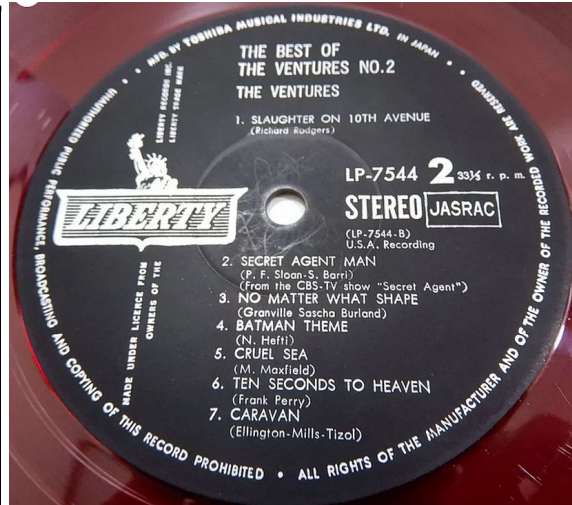




Rather than engage in lengthy repetition of the complexities surrounding this issue, I refer the reader to the detailed discussion in C/B 263ff./1966.11ff.

#20

*Best Of The Ventures Vol.2, Liberty LL-7544;
reissue1967, LP 8155*





- A1 Kimi To Itsumademo*
- A2 Diamond Head**‡
- A3 Apache***†
- A4 Let's Go!****
- A5 Out Of Limits*****‡
- A6 Bumble Bee Twist*****†
- A7 A Taste Of Honey*****‡
- B1 Slaughter On Tenth Avenue*****‡
- B2 Secret Agent Man*****
- B3 No Matter What Shape*****
- B4 Batman Theme*****
- B5 The Cruel Sea*****‡
- B6 Ten Seconds To Heaven*****
- B7 Caravan*****‡

- * A-Single, Liberty LR 1500, Japan 1966
- ** *Walk, Don't Run Vol.2* 1964
- *** ... *Play Telstar* 1963
- **** *Let's Go!* 1963
- ***** *(The) Ventures In Space* 1964
- ***** *Twist With The Ventures* 1962
- ***** *Where The Action Is* 1966
- ***** *The Ventures Knock Me Out!* 1965
- ***** *The Ventures (Batman Theme)* 1966
- ***** *The Fabulous Ventures* 1964
- ***** *Ten Seconds ... aka The Stranger, A-Single Dolton 308,* 1965
- ***** *Bobby Vee Meets The Ventures* 1963

This July 1966 compilation offers the studio versions of certain numbers played in recent concerts (recorded live examples, 1965/1966: † *The Ventures In Japan*; ‡ *The Ventures In Japan Vol.2*). Noteworthy too is the high incidence of tracks which had already appeared as A/B singles:

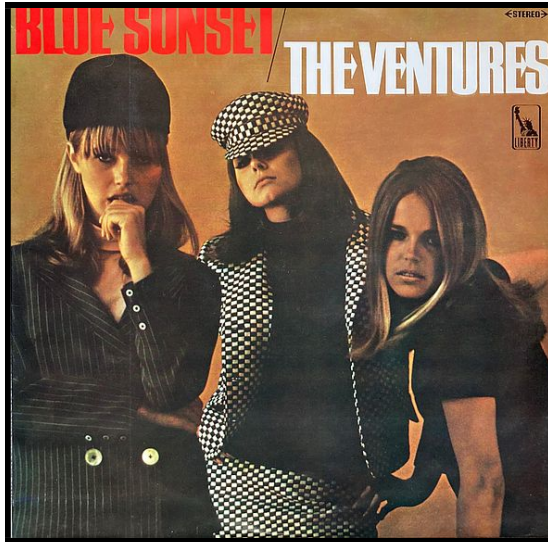
- A1 A January 1966
- A2 A January 1965
- A3 B (live) October 1965
- A5 A June 1966
- A7 A March 1966
- B1 A March 1965
- B2 A April 1966
- B3 B March 1966
- B4 A March 1966
- B5 A July 1965
- B6 A November 1965
- B7 A June 1965

For Ten Seconds ... see above #18 on *A Go-Go Japan*.

Kimi ... is a brilliant piece by Yuzo Kayama (C/B 283-284/66.24-25), who is pictured with the group on the back cover of this compilation, shown above along with the August 1966 EP which takes in Yuzo's composition (Liberty LP-4180).

#21

Blue Sunset, Liberty LP-8056



- A1 Blue Sunset*
- A2 Hank Panky**
- A3 Wild Trip**
- A4 Arabesque***
- A5 Wild Cat**
- A6 The Work Song**
- B1 Summer In The City**
- B2 Sweet Pea**
- B3 Wild Thing**
- B4 Wild And Wooly**
- B5 Wild Child**
- B6 Comin' Home Baby****

* A-Single Yuhi Wa Akaku (Blue Sunset), Liberty LR-1555, Japan October 1966

** *Wild Things!* September 1966

*** A-Single, Dolton 321, July 1966

**** B-Single, Dolton 320, June 1966

Largely the standard *Wild Things!* album together with its front cover collection of rebellious looking models, but three of its numbers are discarded (Fuzzy And Wild, The Pied Piper, How Now Wild Cow) in favour of three singles tracks: Blue Sunset (Yuhi Wa Akaku), also EP *Blue Sunset*, Liberty LP-4204 (C/B 287-288/66.27); Arabesque (C/B 286/66.26-27; see **EP Entry 134**); Comin' Home Baby (C/B 285-286/66.25-26; **EP Entry 133**).



US

#22

***Runnin' Strong*, US 1966 (and Canada, Germany in 1960s)**

Sunset SUS 5116 Stereo SUM 1116 Mono

~ UK 1968 different cover, Sunset SLS 50045



A1	Wild Action	Action Plus*
A2	Bird Swingers	Bird Rockers**
A3	Bamba	La Bamba***
A4	Lonely Karen	Lonely Girl**
A5	Blue Guitar	Ravin' Blue****
B1	Moon Journey	Journey To The Stars****
B2	Puncher	Cruncher*****
B3	Cathy's Theme	Night Stick***
B4	Runnin' Strong	Runnin' Wild****
B5	Dancin' With Steve	Walkin' With Pluto****

* *Where The Action Is* 1966
** *The Ventures Knock Me Out!* 1965
*** *The Ventures A Go-Go* 1965
**** *The Fabulous Ventures* 1964
***** *Surfing* 1963

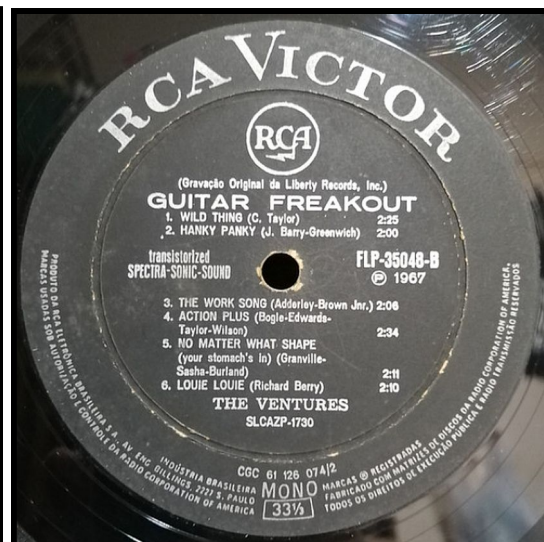
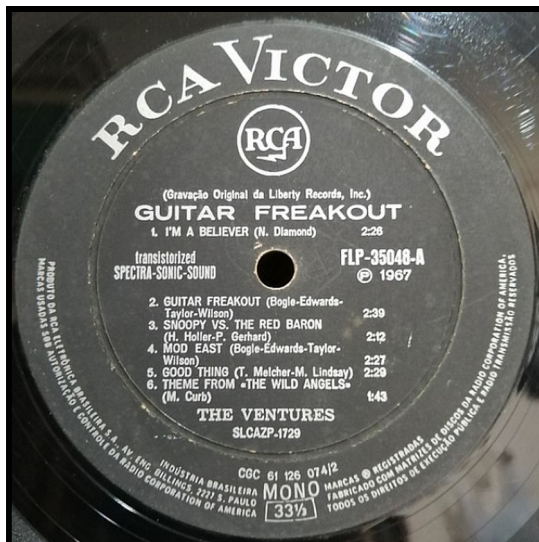
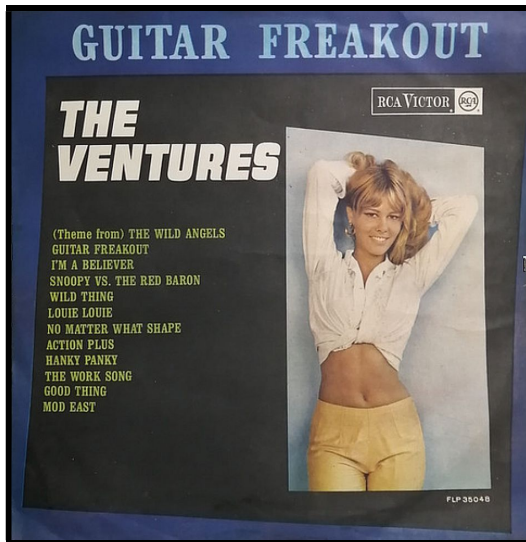
A year on from its founding as a subsidiary of Liberty with the brief of producing budget albums with selections from full-priced product, chiefly derived from labels under Liberty's control, this 10-track Ventures set, the first such compilation from the company, was served up with a nasty surprise: each track, without explanation, was given a fresh title, all of which resist and certainly do not deserve detailed analysis. The set continued to be reissued in this form in the 70s, both in the US and Canada and beyond (German label shown for side 2). There was certainly a market for budget material, and their very extensive range included some excellent tasters: more from (an improved) Sunset below at #41.

1967

BRAZIL

#23

Guitar Freakout , RCA Victor FLP-35048



- A1 I'm A Believer*
- A2 Guitar Freakout*
- A3 Snoopy vs The Red Baron*
- A4 Mod East*
- A5 Good Thing*
- A6 Theme From The Wild Angels*
- B1 Wild Thing**
- B2 Hanky Panky**
- B3 The Work Song**
- B4 Action Plus***
- B5 No Matter What Shape***
- B6 Louie Louie****

- * *Guitar Freakout* 1967
- ** *Wild Things!* 1966
- *** *Where The Action Is* 1966
- **** *The Ventures À Go-Go* 1965

A very abrupt change of direction after side one. An interesting choice of (some of) the group in action on the back cover.

#24

Golden Hits, RCA Victor FLP-35052



- A1 Rebel Rouser*
- A2 Honky Tonk**
- A3 Let's Go!***
- A4 Telstar****
- A5 The Lonely Bull****
- A6 Psychedelic Venture*****
- B1 Western Union*****
- B2 Walk, Don't Run**
- B3 Kandy Koncoction*****
- B4 Apache****
- B5 Wipe Out****
- B6 Memphis***

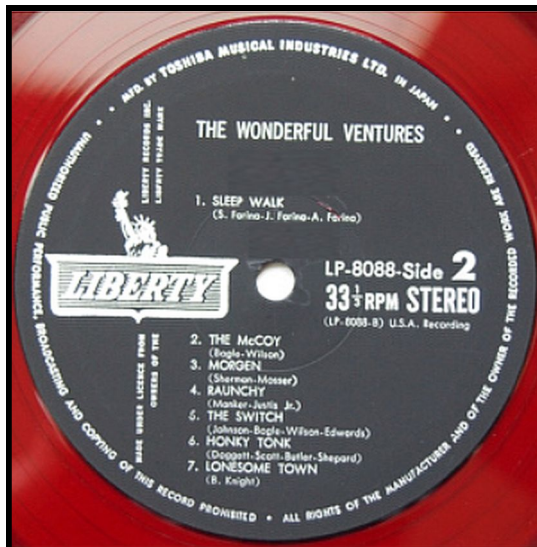
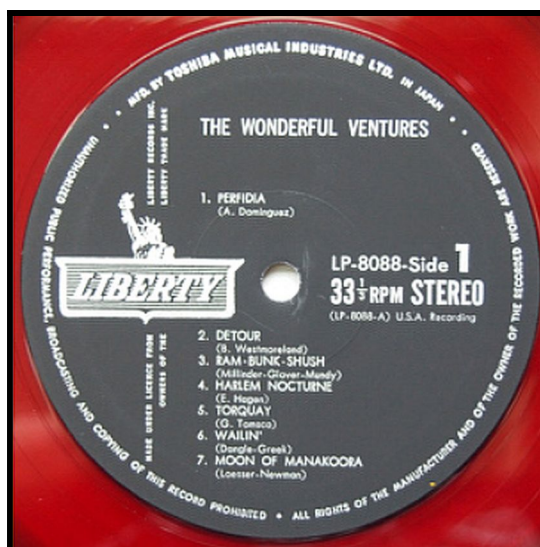
- * *Golden Greats* 1967
- ** *Walk, Don't Run* 1960
- *** *Let's Go!* 1963
- **** ... *Play Telstar* 1963
- ***** *Super Psychedelics* 1967
- ***** *Surfing* 1963

A mix of old and new, with tracks A6 and B3 evoking the era of Flower Power in keeping with the partial imitation of the splashes of colour copied from the cover of the *Super Psychedelics* album. The surprise here is the inclusion Of Rebel Rouser, one of the two fresh tracks on the US compilation *Golden Greats* (see #32 below).

JAPAN

#25

The Wonderful Ventures, Liberty LP-8088



- A1 The Switch*
- A2 Honky Tonk*
- A3 Lonesome Town**
- A4 Perfidia**
- A5 Detour**
- A6 Ram-Bunk-Shush**
- A7 Raunchy*
- B1 Harlem Nocturne**
- B2 Torquay**
- B3 Wailin'**
- B4 Moon Of Manakoora**
- B5 Sleepwalk*
- B6 Morgen*
- B7 The McCoy*

* *Walk, Don't Run* 1960

** *The Ventures* 1961

An 6/8 split between the first two albums. There is some convergence with an earlier venture into early territory, *The Ventures* album LBY-1041 from 1963 (#7), see comment. Numbers like Moon Of Manakoora and The Switch would have looked unfamiliar to the record-buying public of the day, eager to scoop up the riches offered by the group's extensive output. A May 1967 EP takes in four of the above oldies, Sleepwalk, Detour, The McCoy, Harlem Nocturne (Liberty LP-4241).

#26

Guitar Breakout!, Liberty LP-8111



The album *Guitar Freakout* spawned a new title, presumably because Japanese marketers did not relish the idea of young record buyers picking up a product with a title suggesting links with use of hallucinogenic substances by the hippie community amongst others. None the less, the listing on the record within still harboured the track *Guitar Freakout*, and *Cookout Freakout On Lookout Mountain* into the bargain. Forward to 2017: Japan issued a CD *Guitar Freakout* on Capitol (UICY-78273) with enlarged track listing, the back cover of which asked the momentous question: “Just what is ‘freakout’? The word has a lot of meanings to a lot of people, but there is one common denominator: excitement.” And The Ventures, it concludes, is an exciting group.

It has a place in this survey because it adds the number *Fuzzy And Wild* from the 1966 *Wild Things!* set to the twelve of the source album, the running order of which is also manipulated.

Front cover pic (also #43): see **EP, Introduction Artwork Japan 2**.

#27 Golden Original Hits, Liberty LP-8131



A1 Mod East*
 A2 Fuzzy And Wild**
 A3 Surf Rider***
 A4 The Lonely Sea***
 A5 Bird Rockers****
 A6 Yellow Jacket*****
 A7 Rap City*****
 B1 Ginza Lights*****
 B2 Go-Go Slow*****
 B3 Driving Guitars*****
 B4 Journey To the Stars*****
 B5 Kickstand*****
 B6 Bumble Bee Twist*****

* *Guitar Freakout 1967*
 ** *Wild Things! 1966*
 *** *Surfing 1963*
 **** *The Ventures Knock Me Out! 1965*
 ***** *The Colorful Ventures 1961*
 ***** *Walk, Don't Run Vol.2 1964*
 ***** *Go With The Ventures! 1966*
 ***** *The Ventures À Go-Go 1965*
 ***** *Twist With The Ventures 1962*
 ***** *The Fabulous Ventures 1964*
 ***** *EP Kickstand, Liberty LP-4070, Japan 1965*

A fine mixture, taking in tracks that had featured on onstage recordings since 1965 (A3, 6, 7; B1, 3, 4, 6). On the rare Kickstand see C/B 235-236/65.22 and **EP Entry 92**; on Ginza Lights: **EP 106b**.

#28

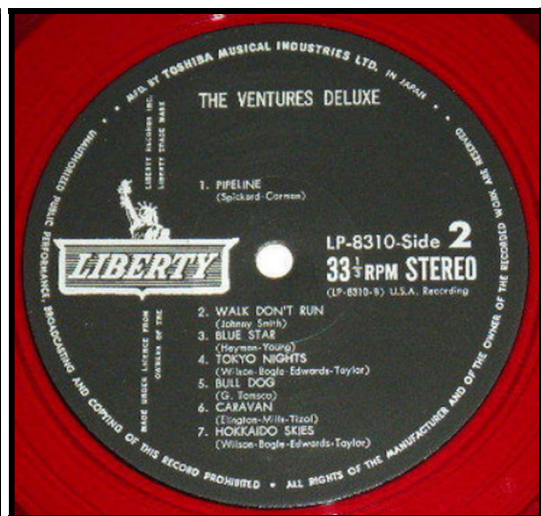
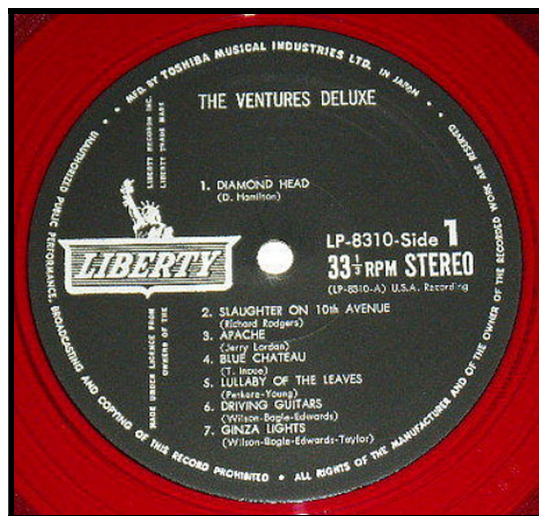
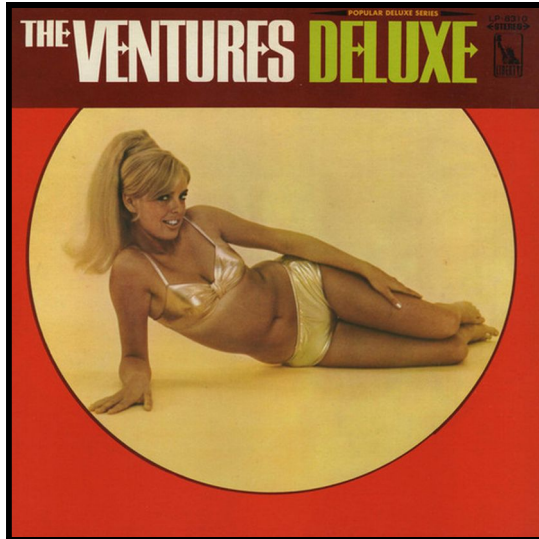
Super Psychedelics, Liberty LP-8173



Another slightly manipulated release: 1999 A.D. is removed from the original album with its multicoloured artwork and replaced by Mod East from the 1967 *Guitar Freakout*; the order of tracks is also modified. The term A.D. would have posed no problem in modern Japan, but the allusion (probably to Nostradamus: C/B 311-312/67.12) may have caused puzzlement: Mod East was readily to hand (A-Single March, EP June 1967).

#29

Ventures Deluxe, Liberty LP-8310



Internal shot from gatefold:



A1 Diamond Head*
 A2 Slaughter On Tenth Avenue**
 A3 Apache***
 A4 Blue Chateau****
 A5 Lullaby Of The Leaves*****
 A6 Driving Guitars*****
 A7 Ginza Lights*****
 B1 Pipeline*****
 B2 Walk, Don't Run*****
 B3 Blue Star*
 B4 Tokyo Nights****
 B5 Bulldog*****
 B6 Caravan*****
 B7 Hokkaido Skies****

* *Walk, Don't Run Vol.2* 1964
 ** *The Ventures Knock Me Out!* 1965
 *** *... Play Telstar* 1963
 **** *Pops In Japan* 1967
 ***** *Another Smash!* 1961
 ***** *Twist With The Ventures Vol.2* 1962
 ***** *Go With The Ventures!* 1966
 ***** *Surfing* 1963
 ***** *Walk, Don't Run* 1960
 ***** *Bobby Vee Meets The Ventures* 1963
 ***** *EP Kickstand, Liberty LP-4070, Japan* 1965

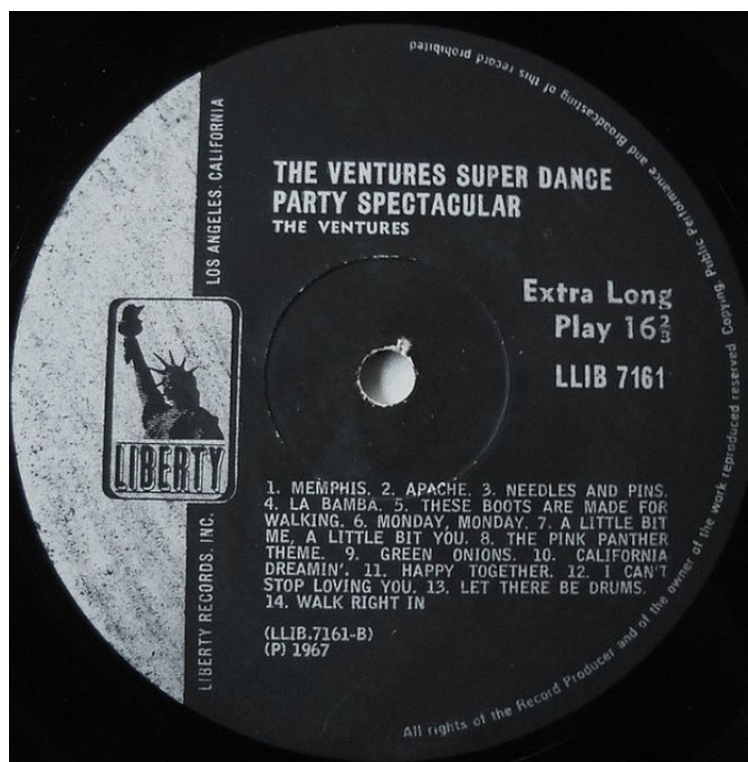
Release date: November 1967, not as often stated 1968; artwork: see #32 below. Like *Golden Original Hits* above, this selection offers a number of tracks that had featured on onstage recordings since 1965 (A1-3, 5 [in medley]), 6-7; B 1, 2 [in medley], 5-6). A notable ingredient this time is the presence in compilations of Japanese-flavoured titles, A4 by a native composer, A7, B4 and B7 penned by the group. Ginza Lights had appeared as an A-single in August 1966 (an EP the same month), while 1967 had produced Hokkaido Skies/ Tokyo Nights in June (both on EP November), Blue Chateau an A-single in July (an EP September).

SOUTH AFRICA

#30

Dance Party Spectacular, Liberty LIB 7161



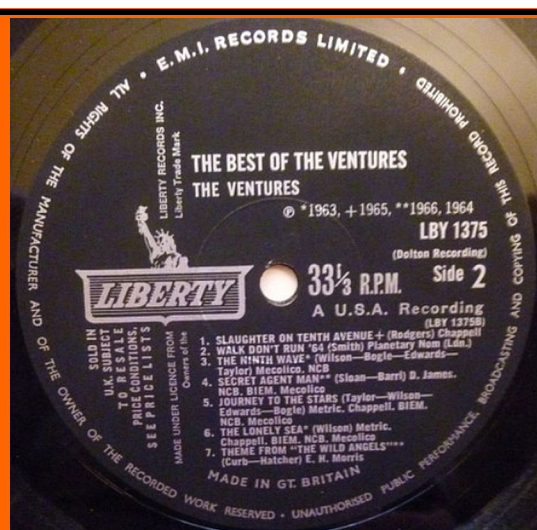


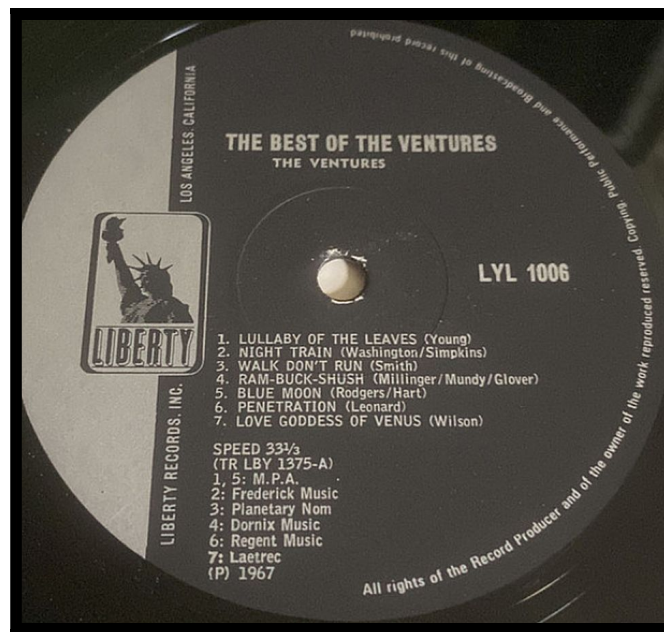
Data on these Extra Long Play records and discussion of their playability have flooded the internet. As a mere curiosity offering a wide variety but nothing in the way of rarities, this survey contents itself with providing images with the track listings of this sole Ventures example.

UK

#31

The Best Of The Ventures,
Liberty SLBY 1375 Stereo/ LBY 1375 Mono;
also South Africa Liberty LYL 1006 Mono





- A1 Lullaby Of The Leaves*
- A2 Night Train**
- A3 Walk, Don't Run**
- A4 Ram-Bunk-Shush***
- A5 Blue Moon****
- A6 Penetration*****
- A7 Love Goddess Of Venus*****
- B1 Slaughter On Tenth Avenue*****
- B2 Walk, Don't Run '64*****
- B3 The Ninth Wave*****
- B4 Secret Agent Man*****
- B5 Journey To the Stars*****
- B6 The Lonely Sea*****
- B7 Theme from The Wild Angels*****

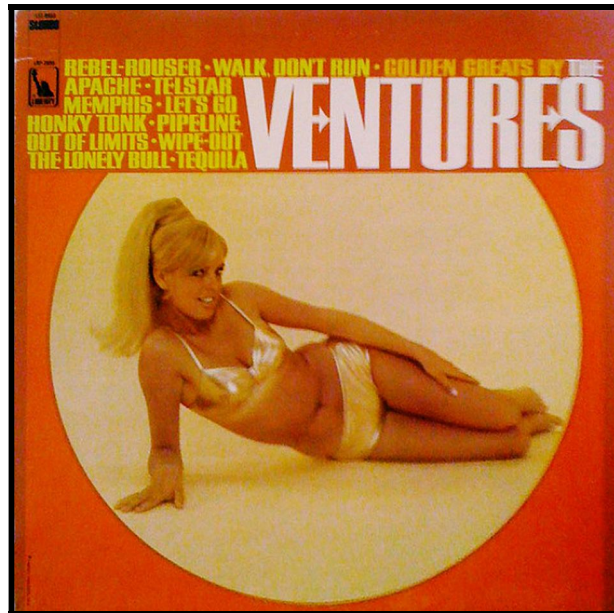
- * *Another Smash!!!* 1961
- ** *Walk, Don't Run* 1960
- *** *The Ventures* 1961
- **** *The Colorful Ventures* 1961
- ***** *(The) Ventures In Space* 1964
- ***** *The Ventures Knock Me Out!* 1965
- ***** *Walk, Don't Run Vol.2* 1964
- ***** *Surfing* 1963
- ***** *The Ventures (Batman Theme)* 1966
- ***** *The Fabulous Ventures* 1964

A satisfying and varied selection, many of the numbers having been released in the UK on singles (A1, 3-6, B1-5, 7) and EP (A2, 3 twice, 4 twice, B4); Love Goddess... is a rarity. Magic Records France considered the issue deserving of a CD (though the source was not acknowledged), to which it appended a number of bonus tracks (3930662, 2008).

US

#32

Golden Greats, Liberty LST-8053 Stereo/ LRP 2053 Mono



Internal shot from gatefold





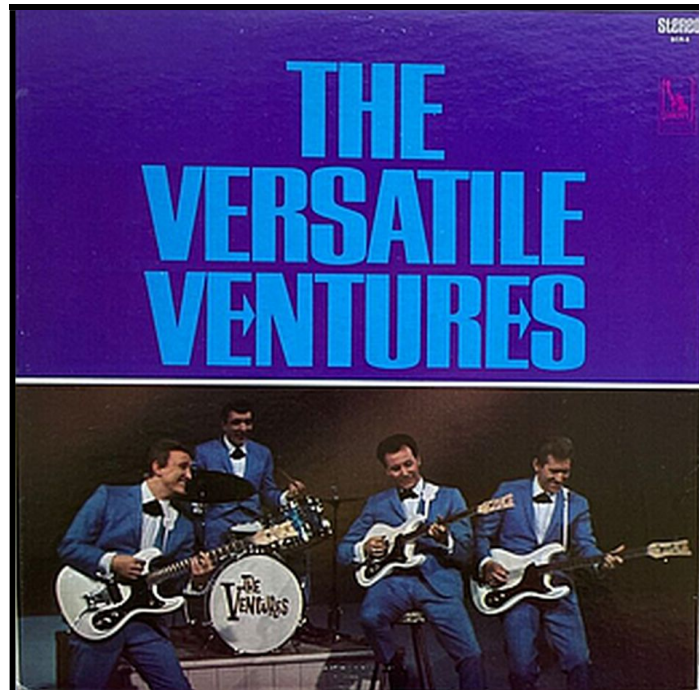
- A1 Telstar*
- A2 The Lonely Bull*
- A3 Rebel Rouser: see below
- A4 Honky Tonk**
- A5 Let's Go!***
- A6 Pipeline****
- B1 Walk, Don't Run ['64]*****
- B2 Tequila*
- B3 Apache: see below
- B4 Wipe Out***
- B5 Memphis***
- B6 Out Of Limits*****

- * ... Play Telstar 1963
- ** Walk, Don't Run 1960*
- *** Let's Go! 1963
- **** Surfing 1963
- ***** Walk, Don't Run Vol. 2 see below
- ***** (The) Ventures In Space 1964

Despite its US chart success (C/B 319/67.17) and wide global distribution, for serious Ventures fans this was a pathetic offering for the most part, hardly a selection of 'Greats': still, Rebel Rouser (first here) and a fresh Apache contribute something, though no opportunity was taken to go even further: updated versions of the less than ideal Pipeline and the poor non-Ventures Wipe Out (C/B 134-135/63.10-11; C/B 154-155/63.23) would have made improved matters greatly. Walk, Don't Run is billed as the 1960 original but is in fact the 1964 version: see Halterman 154-155 and C/B 319-320/67.17-18.

#33

The Versatile Ventures, Liberty SCR 5 Stereo, MCR 5 Mono;
also Canada





- A1 2000 Pound Bee Part 1*
- A2 Skip To M'Limbo**
- A3 Rap City***
- A4 Gemini****
- A5 Snowflakes*****
- B1 The Swingin' Creeper*****
- B2 Journey To The Stars*****
- B3 La Bamba*****
- B4 Ten Seconds To Heaven*****
- B5 The Chase*****

- * A-Single, Dolton 67, 1962
- ** B-Single, Dolton 68, 1963
- *** *Walk, Don't Run Vol.2*, 1964
- **** A-Single, Dolton 311, 1965
- ***** *The Ventures' Christmas Album*, 1965
- ***** *The Ventures À Go-Go* 1965
- ***** *The Fabulous Ventures* 1964
- ***** A-Single, LR-1432, Japan 1965
- ***** A-Single, Dolton 85, 1963

A selection of choice tracks obtained from Liberty by The Columbia Record Club. This release, clearly the work of a knowledgeable Ventures fan or fans, is discussed in illuminating detail by Halterman 163, who draws particular attention to the stereo versions of A1-2, B4-5. Of the album-sourced numbers the atmospheric *The Swingin' Creeper* (also picked up later by Sunset see #41) and strikingly inventive rendition of *Snowflakes* are especially noteworthy. The singles tracks: A1 in a compilation already *The Ventures À Go-Go* Japan 1966 (#18), B4 id. and *Best Of Vol. 2* Japan 1966 (#20); A4 *The Ventures À Go-Go* Brazil 1965 (#11), see above for comments on these three. For *Skip To M'Limbo* see EP Entry 39.

