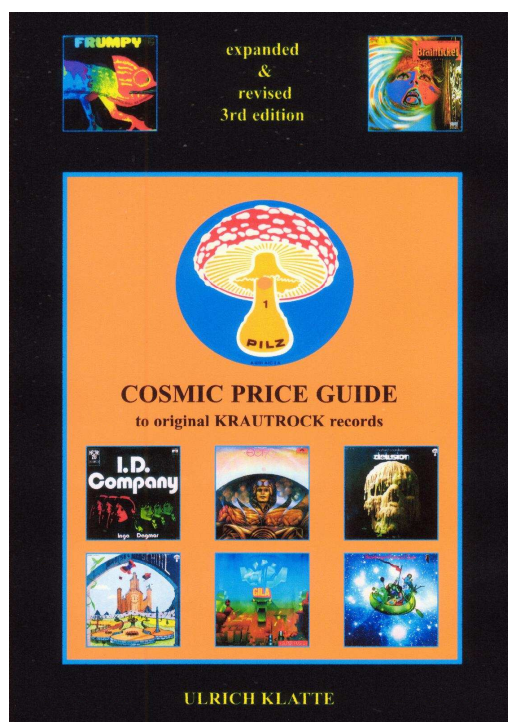


Now in its third edition – revised once again, and expanded from 304 to 448 pages! – this remains an excellent compendium not only for fans, collectors and dealers, but also for casual rummagers and those who simply have a thirst for knowledge. There is a well-written, bilingual, introductory foreword, after which Krautrock (including stylistic offshoots from related genres) is catalogued alphabetically, with painstaking attention to the factual details of discography. There are also cautious price estimates for mint-condition records (the focus here, with very few exceptions, is on German first releases) to assist in evaluation. A useful feature – and one that is most pleasing to the eye – is the visual side, with over 2,500 cover illustrations (albums and singles, approx. 4 x 4cm). The meticulously sorted current material, but above all the (extremely) rare stuff that is presented, further qualify The Cosmic Price Guide as an essential work which gives the impression, at times, of a picture-book bag of tricks which runs from Aardvark, via Lapislazuli, to Zweistein. Similarly exemplary is the concluding “Label Section”, with about 130 attractive company labels (many rarities, but also bargain-basket brands such as FASS and Europa), as well as the illustrations of legendary Kraut posters and flexi-discs, and even a selection of tarot cards of Walter Wegmüller and Starmaiden Gille. As with the first edition, the author Ulrich Klatte also sets a high standard as far as the manufacture is concerned: a washable hardback cover with an integrated structure, a binding that can withstand being leafed through hundreds of times without sustaining any damage, easily readable type printed on high-quality, strong glazed paper – these all deserve an ‘A’ plus. There are no drainages of colour, no annoying flickers, and no trace of untidy frames. Highly recommended!



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(translated)