



## The Vertigo Swirl Label

Ulrich Klatte & Marcel Koopman



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### The ultimate guide to Swirl

The first edition of this book was a fascinating read and an invaluable tool for examining the wonderful world of the Vertigo Swirl which, as many readers will know, is (alongside Harvest) one of the most collectable prog labels.

While some artists like Black Sabbath, Kraftwerk and

Rod Stewart enjoyed healthy sales and long careers and Nucleus were more mid-table, many other Vertigo artists like Cressida, Ben, Ramases and Fairfield Parlour fell by the wayside, but not before releasing adventurous albums housed in wonderfully designed gatefold sleeves on that famed swirl label.

This updated edition is as compelling as the first, covering every base from an interview with label designer Linda Nicol, an up-to-date price guide (in German and English), a full discography that covers every record the label issued around the world as well as some Holy Grails.

As you might imagine, the album artwork is lavishly reproduced with pictures of every sleeve and every possible label variation. While LPs from the UK are the most collectable, it was great to see LP cover variations like *Gentle Giant* from Venezuela and the obscure Buffalo's *Dead Forever* issued in Australia and German in 1972. Essential. *Ian Shirley*

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