

You want to hear what you expected

In the 1960s you could not always rely on getting what you expected hear because record labels were a law unto themselves!

The first release by The Crickets on the Liberty label were recorded by studio musicians with the original drummer Jerry Allison in the mix. The Ventures were signed up to the same label and if you played two of their many albums back to back then you were left wondering who was actually playing!

Back home. Dave Clark made money out of not being able to play drums on this own records and a sight reading studio guitar player did not get the credit for playing on the first records that Jet Harris released after he left the Shadows.

Herman's Hermits had to learn the records before going out on the road playing live, the same for Dave Berry's Cruisers. The singer with the Love Affair was the only one of the group to appear on their records while the Bay City Rollers had trouble mastering their instruments.

Even the top groups had to call in studio musicians to help with backing singers and guitar breaks.

Things also worked in reverse. If a group of studio musicians had a hit record the some enterprising agent would get a group together, take the name and then promote the record as though it was his own, often for years! In fact one hit studio record had at least seven clones to its name, all doing the rounds of venues at the same time!

Here I have to come clean and say that I added some applause to the end of one of my recordings.