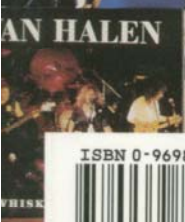
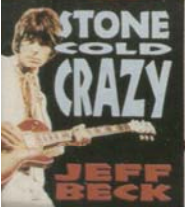
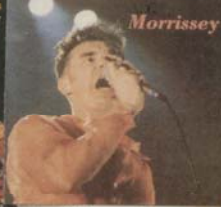
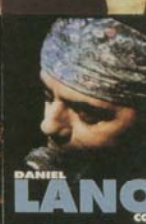




HOT WACKS



ISBN 0-9698080-0-2
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Patti Smith

Hello there!

I recently received my copy of Supplement #1. You are to be commended for your exhaustive efforts. Hot Wacks (in all its varying incarnations - magazine, full length book, and now supplements to one main volume) has been an essential, much loved partner in my bootleg collection escapades over the past ten years. Thank you for continuing to exist despite what must be a very difficult undertaking.

I didn't write just to kiss your feet! I took the liberty of compiling a TOP 5 list of Patti Smith boots for you to use (or not) in an upcoming Wacks. Here 'tis:

In compiling this list of the 5 HOTTEST PATTI SMITH BOOTLEGS the following criteria were used. Not every one of these records (thus far, the only Patti Smith bootleg CDs circulating are re-pressings of vinyl boots) meets ALL the criteria, but they all deserve a space in the Top 5 for their own unique reasons.

1) HISTORICAL

Boots containing cover versions, unreleased songs, and/or performances from odd periods in Patti's career ("Free Music Store '75", also available on CD, showcases the embryonic Patti Smith Group sans drummer).

2) 'CHARM' FACTOR

My favorite bootlegs are those that leave you feeling that you've actually attended the concert. In the early years of her career Patti Smith was combination emcee, storyteller, and comedienne, besides fronting a rock band. Boots from '75 and '76 convey a CAMARADERIE with Patti. You feel like she's an old high school friend. Enjoying moments like these are what makes years of searching for maddeningly elusive boots worthwhile.

3) SCARCENESS

Most - make that ALL - Patti Smith bootleg vinyl has been out of print for years. Even so, some titles are more scarce than others. Bootlegs with particularly limited runs make the list. Without further ado, let's get to it!

THE 5 HOTTEST PATTI SMITH BOOTLEGS (no particular order)

1) WHITE CHRISTMAS b/w NO JESTERING

A-side studio 1978; B-side live Eugene, Oregon 1978 (Lenny Kaye lead vocals). Considered by many to be the rarest Patti Smith bootleg. Quality on both tracks is soundboard excellent. HISTORICAL IMPORTANCE: 10 (both tracks unavailable elsewhere). 'CHARM' FACTOR: 5 (too clean for my taste). SCARCENESS: 10.

2) FREE MUSIC STORE 1975

This FM-broadcast quality boot has a cool pink textured cover and songs you'll never get anywhere else: a live 'Distant Fingers', 'Break It Up', a Smokey Robinson cover and a little ditty never heard again, 'Snowball.' Patti's banter is light and funny, and during 'Gloria' she beseeches someone from the crowd to join the band as drummer! EXTREMELY early, pre-Horses performance. HISTORICAL IMPORTANCE/ CHARM/ SCARCENESS: All off the numerical scale.

3) LIVE IN LONDON (2LP and 1LP versions)

There are two bootlegs called "Live In London"; the 1LP version has a different cover and is a compilation of tracks off the 2LP version. The 2LP version is hotter because it contains a Patti poetry

ding from St. Mark's Church in early '75; two interviews recorded from New York radio in very good quality; and a live version of "Piss Factory." HISTORICAL IMPORTANCE (2LP): 10. 'CHARM': 9. SCARCENESS (both versions): 10.

I NEVER TALKED TO BOB DYLAN

Best pressing of this boot are Swedish on black vinyl; re-pressings are American on varying shades of colored vinyl. Easily the closest to pure punk rock Patti ever came. Ergo - she defined it. An added bonus is the deliciously clear recording. HISTORICAL IMPORTANCE: 10. 'CHARM': 10. SCARCENESS (black vinyl): 10 (coloured vinyl) 9.

YOU LIGHT UP MY LIFE (ADVANCE COPY)

The boot itself is of marginal quality, and it's an "Easter"-era show, when Patti began to sell out huge venues. The magic of 1976 era concerts just ain't here, though there are several cool cover versions - most notably the title track - well worth the price you'll be asked to pay. The advance copy in particular is quite nifty - in lieu of the gorgeous deluxe B&W cover of the standard issue, it comes in a plain white jacket rubber stamped "ADVANCE COPY." There's only 200 of 'em. HISTORICAL IMPORTANCE: 10 (Patti's version of "You Light Up My Life" must be heard to be believed). 'CHARM': 4. SCARCENESS:

Anyway, there's the five. Be sure to keep me informed of upcoming products! I really look forward to anything you put out. Keep up the good work.

Sincerely, Lori