

# PICTURE COVERS – STYLIZED BATS

## BAT-SHAPED DISCS

In chronological order by release dates

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### Stylized Bat Shaped Disc No. 1

**PC-BT-SD1** United Kingdom 1983

**EP:** RETURNING FROM A JOURNEY/ KISS KISS BANG BANG

**Perf:** The Specimen (Rock)

**Prod Co:** London Records Ltd.

**Label:** London LONPD 24

**Spec:** 11" 45rpm (stereo)

**Notes:** A simplified stylized black bat shape cut out of vinyl with a small spindle hole and the grooves taking up the normal 7 inch space.

The gothic hard rock group, The Specimen, started in Bristol in 1981 and later moved to London where in July 1982 they first started performing in the famous Soho rock club, Batcave. These two songs have nothing to do with bats, but the band's connection with the Batcave might explain the bat shaped disc.

**Ref:** The Specimen, Returning from a Journey, [45cat](#)  
The Specimen, Returning from a Journey EP, [Discogs](#)



### Stylized Bat Shaped Disc No. 2

**PC-BT-SD2** United States 1983

**EP:** HORROR ROCK CLASSICS VOL. II

**Perf:** Neil Norman & His Cosmic Orch.;  
Barnes & Barnes; Bobby Pickett;  
Little Stevie & The McQueens (Rock)

**Prod Co:** Rhino Records

**Label:** Rhino RNDP 283

**Spec:** 10x10.25" 33rpm

**Notes:** Another simplified stylized black bat shape cut out of vinyl with a small spindle hole and the grooves taking up the normal 7 inch space. This shape is slightly different than the preceding disc: the bat's head and ears are smaller and flanked by the upper part of the wings, while the wings themselves are less detailed.

The four songs on this EP – A1. Twilight Zone/ A2. Cemetery Girls/ B1. Monster Mash/ B2. The Blob – do not have anything to do with bats.

**Ref:** Horror Rock Classics – Vol. II LP, [Discogs](#)



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## Stylized Bat Shaped Picture Disc No. 3

**PC-BT-SD3** United Kingdom 1988-1990

1. 12" **EP:** AC/DC – LIMITED EDITION INTERVIEW (1988)  
Tell Tales TTS 1001
2. 12" **EP:** ANTHRAX – LIMITED EDITION INTERVIEW (1988)  
Tell Tales TTS 1002
3. 12" **EP:** BILLY IDOL – INTERVIEW (1988)  
Tell Tales TTS 1003
4. 12" **EP:** IRON MAIDEN – LIMITED EDITION INTERVIEW (1988)  
Tell Tales TTS 1004
5. 12" **EP:** KISS – INTERVIEW (1988)  
Tell Tales TTS 1005
6. 12" **EP:** MOTÖRHEAD – TELL TALES INTERVIEW (1988)  
Tell Tales TTS 1006
7. 12" **EP:** METALLICA – INTERVIEW (1988)  
Tell Tales TTS 1007
8. 12" **EP:** OZZY OSBOURNE – INTERVIEW (1988)  
Tell Tales TTS 1008
9. 12" **EP:** HELLOWEEN – INTERVIEW (1989)  
Tell Tales TTS 1009
10. 12" **EP:** W.A.S.P. – INTERVIEW (1989)  
Tell Tales TTS 1010
11. 12" **EP:** WARLOCK – INTERVIEW (1989)  
Tell Tales TTS 1011
12. 12" **EP:** DEF LEPPARD. – LIMITED EDITION INTERVIEW (1989)  
Tell Tales TTS 1012
13. 12" **EP:** POISON – LIMITED EDITION INTERVIEW (1989)  
Tell Tales TTS 1013
14. 12" **EP:** BON JOVI – LIMITED EDITION INTERVIEW (1989)  
Tell Tales TTS 1014
15. 12" **EP:** ALICE COOPER – LIMITED EDITION INTERVIEW (1989)  
Tell Tales TTS 1015
16. 12" **EP:** AEROSMITH – LIMITED INTERVIEW (1989)  
Tell Tales TTS 1016
17. 12" **EP:** DEEP PURPLE – LIMITED INTERVIEW (1989)  
Tell Tales TTS 1017
18. 12" **EP:** SKID ROW – INTERVIEW (1989)  
Tell Tales TTS 1018
19. 12" **EP:** MÖTLEY CRÜE – AN INTERVIEW ON THE ROAD (1990)  
Tell Tales TTS 1019
20. 12" **EP:** WHITESNAKE – LIMITED EDITION INTERVIEW (1990)  
Tell Tales TTS 1020
21. 12" **EP:** PRINCE – LIMITED EDITION INTERVIEW (1990)  
Tell Tales TTS 1021

**Prod Co:** Music & Media Promotions Ltd; Shrewton, Salisbury

**Notes:** These 21 bat shaped picture discs all have a simplified stylized black bat shape cut out of vinyl, which has a small head with ears and eyes. Indicated at the bottom is the bat's tail and its [uropatagium](#) or interfemoral membrane or maybe its feet. This same bat-shaped vinyl was used for several heavy metal rock group interviews all released on the Tell Tales label.

Regarding these interviews – “Each interview is presented independently and without collaboration of the artists. This enables us to produce items without artistic or management censorship, which means we can often present a wider view of the artists and their opinions.” (Anon. 2016)

The bat-shaped disc for Tell Tales 1016 with the Aerosmith interview, was also released as a 7 inch 33rpm disc. It was not possible to provide decent quality images of five of these bat-shaped picture discs: Tell

Tales 1003 (Billy Idol); Tell Tales 1004 (Iron Maiden); Tell Tales 1007 (Metallica); Tell Tales 1011 (Warlock); or Tell Tales 1018 (Skid Row).



AC/DC



ANTHRAX



KISS



MOTÖRHEAD



OZZY OSBOURNE



HELLOWEEN



W.A.S.P.



DEF LEPPARD



POISON



BON JOVI



ALICE COOPER



AEROSMITH



DEEP PURPLE



MÖTLEY CRÜE



WHITESNAKE



PRINCE

Ref: Anon. 2016, Deep Purple, Limited Interview, [Discogs](#)  
 AC/DC, Limited Edition Interview, [Discogs](#)  
 Aerosmith, Interview, [rootsvinylguide](#)  
 Alice Cooper, Limited Edition Interview, [Discogs](#)  
 Anthrax, Limited Edition Interview, [Discogs](#)  
 Billy Idol, Limited Edition Interview, [Discogs](#)  
 Def Leppard, Limited Edition Interview, [Discogs](#)  
 Helloween, Limited Edition Interview, [Discogs](#)  
 Iron Maiden, Limited Edition Interview, [Discogs](#)  
 Metallica, Interview, [popsike](#)  
 Motörhead, Tell Tales Interview, [Discogs](#)  
 Mötley Crüe, Interview on the Road, [Discogs](#)  
 Poison, Limited Edition Interview, [Discogs](#)  
 Prince, Limited Edition Interview, [Discogs](#)  
 Ozzy Osbourne, Interview, [musik-sammler.de](#)

Skid Row, Interview, [Discogs](#)

Warlock, Interview, [popsike](#)

W.A.S.P., Interview, [Discogs](#)

Whitesnake, Limited Edition Interview, [Discogs](#)

[caveinspiredmusic.com](http://caveinspiredmusic.com)