

# CAVE RECORD LABELS

## CAVERN & CAVERN CUSTOM

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CRL-CN1 United States ca.1960s

### CAVERN

Prod. Co: Cavern Studios

Location: 16400 East Truman Rd.; Independence, Missouri 64050

#### DISCOGRAPHY:

Single 45s:

**CAVERN 2206** (1967)

Perf: Gus SANDERS

Titles: Bring Back the Love / It's a Joke

**CAVERN 2207** (1967)

Perf: BURLINGTON EXPRESS

Titles: One Day Girl (Twenty-Four) / Memories

**CAVERN 2208** (1967)

Perf: Charley HORTON

Titles: Big City/ Memory Time Can't Erase

**CAVERN 2209** (1968)

Perf: THE CARROLL JENKINS ORCH.

Titles: (with John FOX) Hurt Me/ It Had To Happen To Me

**CAVERN 2211**

Perf: Johnny MACK

Titles: Too Much Overtime with Love / What Have I  
Done to Hurt You

**CAVERN 2212**

Perf: GENE MOORE TRIO

Titles: Moten Swing/ Love Look Away

**CAVERN 2213** (1969)

Perf: Charley HORTON

Titles: It's a Long Way to Kansas City / Picture of a Fool

**CAVERN 2214**

Perf: THE BROTHERS BOGAARDT

Titles: Riders in the Sky/ River You Must Flow

**CAVERN 2216** (1969)

Perf: Eddie CARTER

Titles: My Baby Made a Baby Out of Me / I Feel the Lonelies

**CAVERN 2217** (1970)

Perf: Clayton HOWERTON

Titles: Just a Little Bit Used / I Can See the Signs

**CAVERN 2218**

Perf: Bill ROBERTS & THE FABULOUS FOUR

Titles: Kansas City Chiefs / (?)

**CAVERN 4501**

Perf: Charlie RICHARDS



**Titles:** Just Around the Corner / (?)

**Perf:** Cedar Falls High School Jazz Band & Jazz Singers

**CAVERN CS-400**

**Perf:** Charles STOWE

**Titles:** Mistakes/ It'll Be a Good Thing

**LPs:**

**CAVERN 36396** (1970)

**Perf:** GENE MOORE TRIO (Jazz)

**LP Title:** The Big Band Sounds of the Gene Moore Trio

**CAVERN 41586** (1973)

**Perf:** WILLIAM CHRISMAN HIGH SCHOOL CONCERT BAND

**LP Title:** William Chrisman High School Concert Band 1973

**CAVERN 41642**

**Perf:** DYSART-GENESCO HIGH SCHOOL (DYSART)

**LP Title:** Concert Band and Chorus – May 1973

**CAVERN 41643** (1973)

**Perf:** CEDAR FALLS HIGH SCHOOL JAZZ BAND & JAZZ SINGERS

**LP Title:** Blood, Sweat and Jazz IV



**Notes:** It seems altogether fitting and proper that in Missouri, the Cave State, there should be a record company with a label named, "Cavern." As for the label design you could hardly ask for anything better; two different designs, both showing a stylized cave entrance or cave passage.

**FIRST LABEL DESIGN** – A white label with the upper third portion a blue-gray grid where the label name, Cavern Records, is enclosed within a cave passage where small stalactites hang from the ceiling. It is not known if any releases were issued earlier than Cavern 2206.

**SECOND LABEL DESIGN** – Consists of a highly stylized motif showing a cave entrance arch with a few small stalactite forms (in darker greens on a light green label). On the singles this cave arch motif half surrounds the large spindle hole. Some of these labels have a thin black, arched band under the cave entrance indicating the interior of the cave, and others omit the black band. Together with this thin black arch are notched lines on either side at the base of the green stylized entrance arch.

Active during the late 1950s and early 60s, this single label was primarily oriented toward country music. Located in Independence, Missouri, this record company released 45 singles on two different labels, Cave Records (see under Cave Records) and Cavern Records. Later, starting around the early 1970s, they released LPs on the Cavern Custom label (see below) and, to confuse matters, some of these LPs were also released on the Cavern label.

"Cavern Studios was an industrial cave used as a recording studio in the Kansas City suburb of Independence, MO that was active from the 1960s to 1980s. It was Kansas City's first 16-track recording studio. A slew of underground artists and ambitious country music enthusiasts recorded at Cavern, but a few famous musicians logged time in the studio, including such acts as Danny Cox, Brewer and Shipley, and James Brown." (Anon. 2016)

**Ref:** Anon. 2016, Cavern Studios, 45 Singles Discography, [Discogs](#)

Cavern Records, Independent Record Labels, [45rpmrecords](#)

Cavern Records, 45 Singles & LPs, [Discogs](#)

Charlie Horton, 45 Singles Discography, [Discogs](#)

John Fox & The Carroll Jenkins Orchestra, Hurt Me 45, [Discogs](#)

The Gene Moore Trio, Cavern LP, [Discogs](#)

Hawkins, Martin, *New Kommotion*, v. 2, n. 10, Issue 20, Summer 1978, p. 42

Plante, Robert; Carfagna, Dante et al 2010, Cavern Custom Records Discography, (No longer online), [Forbiddeneye](#)

Spencer, Laura 2014, New Release Brings Subterranean Sounds from 1960s, 1970s to Light, [kcur](#) ( [VIDEO](#) )

Various Cavern 45 Releases, (No longer online), Gemm.com

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**CRL-CN2** United States 1970s

**CAVERN CUSTOM**

**Prod. Co:** Cavern Custom Recording

**Location:** 16400 East Truman Rd.; Independence,  
Missouri 64050

**DISCOGRAPHY:**



Single 45s:

**CAVERN CUSTOM 1974**

Perf: KANSAS CHORAL ENSEMBLE (Gospel)

Titles: Touch Somebody's Life/

Step in Jesus – More Like the Master

**CAVERN CUSTOM (No Cat No.) (1974)**

Perf: FLIGHT (Hard Rock)

Titles: Space Creators/ Theme from Star Trek



LPs:

**CAVERN CUSTOM 40514 (1972)**

Perf: LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL CONCERT BAND

LP Title: Music Sounds of '72

**CAVERN CUSTOM 40681 (1972)**

Perf: DIKE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

LP Title: Cabaret '72

**CAVERN CUSTOM 40892 (1972)**

Perf: JAN BRENNER LTD.

LP Title: Celebrate with the Jan Brenner Ltd.

**CAVERN CUSTOM 40904 (1972)**

Perf: GAIL ALDRICH AND FRIENDS

LP Title: Music from J.R.R. Tolkien's "The Fellowship of the Ring"



**CAVERN CUSTOM 41104 (1972)**

Perf: SUMMER HIGH SCHOOL BAND

LP Title: Summer in Paris '72

**CAVERN 41137**

Perf: NICKELODEON

LP Title: Nickelodeon Plays for Children's Mercy Hospital (Kansas City, MO)

**CAVERN CUSTOM 41287 (1976)**

Perf: PETE EYE TRIO (Jazz)

LP Title: Pete Eye Trio

**CAVERN CUSTOM CCR-41308 (1973)**

Perf: LYMAN ENLOE & THE BLUEGRASS ASSOCIATION

LP Title: Fiddle Tunes I Recall

**CAVERN CUSTOM CCR-41561**

Perf: THE VILLAGE CHURCH CHANCEL CHOIR (Gospel)

LP Title: 25th Anniversary Anthems

**CAVERN CUSTOM 41641 (1973)**

Perf: DIKE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

LP Title: Cabaret '73

**CAVERN CUSTOM 42235 (1970s)**

Perf: THE HOUR OF DELIVERANCE OF EVANGELIST TEMPLE

LP Title: The Church of God and Christ – Vol. 1

**CAVERN CUSTOM 42374 (1974)**

Perf: COMBINED SINGING GROUPS OF FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH, Kansas City, MO

LP Title: Sacred Music

**CAVERN CUSTOM V-42419 (1974)**

Perf: THE BLUEGRASS ASSOCIATION

LP Title: Strings Today... and Yesterday

**CAVERN CUSTOM 42522**

Perf: LAKEVIEW TELECASTERS (Gospel)

LP Title: We Love to Sing

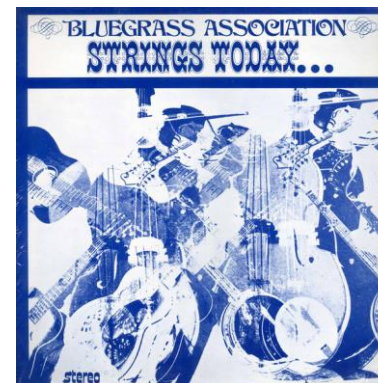
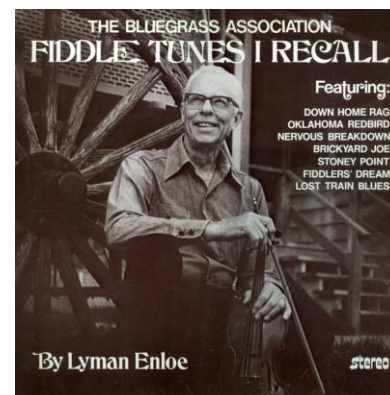
**CAVERN CUSTOM 42523**

Perf: ART SMITH AND HIS KANSAS CITY JAZZ BAND

LP Title: 12th Street USA

**CAVERN CUSTOM 42564**

Perf: THE MILLTONES QUARTET





**LP Title:** Answer the Call

**CAVERN CUSTOM 740142**

**Perf:** TRIZO 50 (Missouri glam rock)

**LP Title:** Trizo 50

**CAVERN CUSTOM USR-3789**

**Perf:** BEACON OF HOPE CHAPEL SINGERS (1971)

**LP Title:** Over the Walls (Kansas State Penitentiary)

**CAVERN CUSTOM USR-3820/ 3821**

**Perf:** DRURY COLLEGE STAN KENTON JAZZ CLINIC

**LP Title:** The Best of Drury College Stan Kenton Jazz Clinic (2XLPS)

**CAVERN CUSTOM USR-4122 (1973)**

**Perf:** THE BLUEGRASS ASSOCIATION

**LP Title:** One Tin Solder

**CAVERN CUSTOM USR-4152 (1972)**

**Perf:** RAYTOWN SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR BAND, etc. (Classical & Jazz)

**LP Title:** 1972 Raytown South High School

**CAVERN CUSTOM 6103 N10 (1976)**

**Perf:** THE UMKC JAZZ BAND

**LP Title:** Live at the 1976 International Jazz Festival – Montreux, Switzerland

**CAVERN CUSTOM 6104-12 (1976)**

**Perf:** ANAL MAGIC & REV. DWIGHT FRIZZELL (Jazz)

**LP Title:** Beyond the Black Crack

**CAVERN CUSTOM USR-7482 (1974)**

**Perf:** RON ROTAR AND THE COUNTRY ROAD RUNNERS

**LP Title:** After You're Gone

**CAVERN CUSTOM USP-7714 (1974)**

**Perf:** KELLY JONES (Country)

**LP Title:** Authentic Old-Time Fiddle Tunes

**CAVERN CUSTOM USR-7806 (1975)**

**Perf:** LEVI NOONAN AND HOUSMAND (Progressive Folk)

**LP Title:** East River

**CAVERN CUSTOM USR-9047 (1975)**

**Perf:** CAROL HASCALL (Country)

**LP Title:** Spotted Pony

**Notes:** The Cavern Custom Recording Company had "multiple subterranean recordings studios." One of these was in an "industrial cave," probably an old mine or quarry tunnel. (Anon. 2016)

Located in Independence, Missouri, this record company released 45 singles on two different labels, Cave Records (see here under Cave Records) and Cavern Records (see above). Later, starting around the early 1970s, they released LPs on this Cavern Custom label and, to confuse matters, some LPs were also released on the Cavern label.

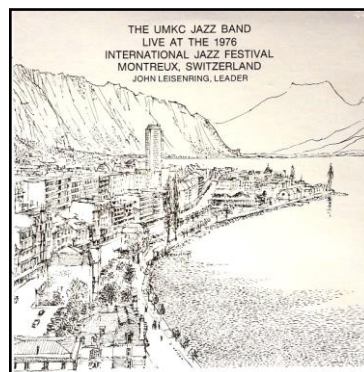
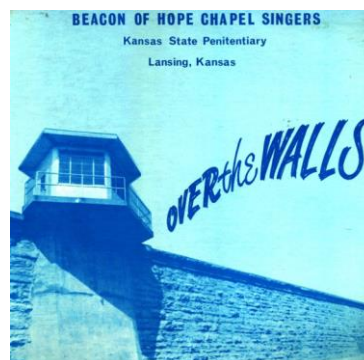
Independence touches Kansas City on the northeast and Truman Road runs east-west at the eastern end of town. In 1978, only seven caves were known in Jackson County where these cities are located (Weaver 1980)

Two known singles were released on the Cavern Custom label, but one carried no catalog number and both had very different label designs. The first was a green label with "Cavern Custom Recordings" printed above a black line and the second was a yellow label with "Cavern Custom" in bold capitols.

But Cavern Custom was primarily an LP label featuring country bands, jazz bands, and high school bands, all from Midwestern United States. Some of the information was found on vinyl record sales lists on Gemm.com Website (no longer online) where the label name was variously given as "Cavern" or "Cavern Custom." The "Cavern" LPs will be found in the above entry.

**Ref:** Anon. 2016, Cavern Studios, [Discogs](#)

Cavern Custom Recordings, LP Discography, [Discogs](#)



Flight, Space Creators 45, [Discogs](#)  
Kansas City Choral Ensemble, 45 Single, [Discogs](#)  
Levi Noonan and Housmand, East River LP, [Discogs](#)  
Lincoln High School Concert Band, Music Sounds of '72 LP, [Discogs](#)  
Osborne, Jerry 1984, *Country Music Buyer-Sellers Reference Book & Price Guide*, O'Sullivan Woodside & Co., Tempe, AZ, p. 26, 85  
Pennell, Charley 2016, Bluegrass Discography, Labels for LPs, Ca-Cz, [ibiblio](#)  
Plante, Robert; Carfagna, Dante et al 2010, Cavern Custom Records Discography, (No longer online), [Forbiddeye](#)  
Spencer, Laura 2014, New Release Brings Subterranean Sounds from 1960s, 1970s to Light, [kcur](#) (◀VIDEO)  
Various Cavern Custom LP Releases, (No longer online), Gemm.com  
The Village Church Chancel Choir, 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Anthems LP, [Discogs](#)  
The UMKC Band, Live at the 1976 International Jazz Festival LP, [Discogs](#)  
Weaver, H. Dwight 1980, *Missouri, The Cave State*, Discovery Enterprises, Jefferson City, Mo, p. 87

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