

style&design



Birth of the cool You shouldn't judge an album by its cover, but for those who do, the spiffy new edition of Joaquim Paulo and Julius Wiedemann's award-winning *Jazz Covers* (Taschen, \$64.99) is an 18-karat listening companion. The two slipcased volumes offer a history of jazz through its LP covers and span the 1940s to the early 1990s, paying particular attention to the golden age of the medium — the bold graphics of mid-century Atomic Age design. To please both jazz geeks and design nerds, each cover is annotated with background details about art direction, illustrator or photographer and label. The bonus material includes playlists from noted jazz DJs alongside interviews with industry figures such as producer Creed Taylor, Blue Note engineer Rudy Gelber, producer and catalogue researcher Michael Cuscuna, cover designer Bob Ciano and the encyclopaedic Fred Cohen. If *Jazz Covers* were an album, it would be what aficionados of the genre call a hot plate.

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