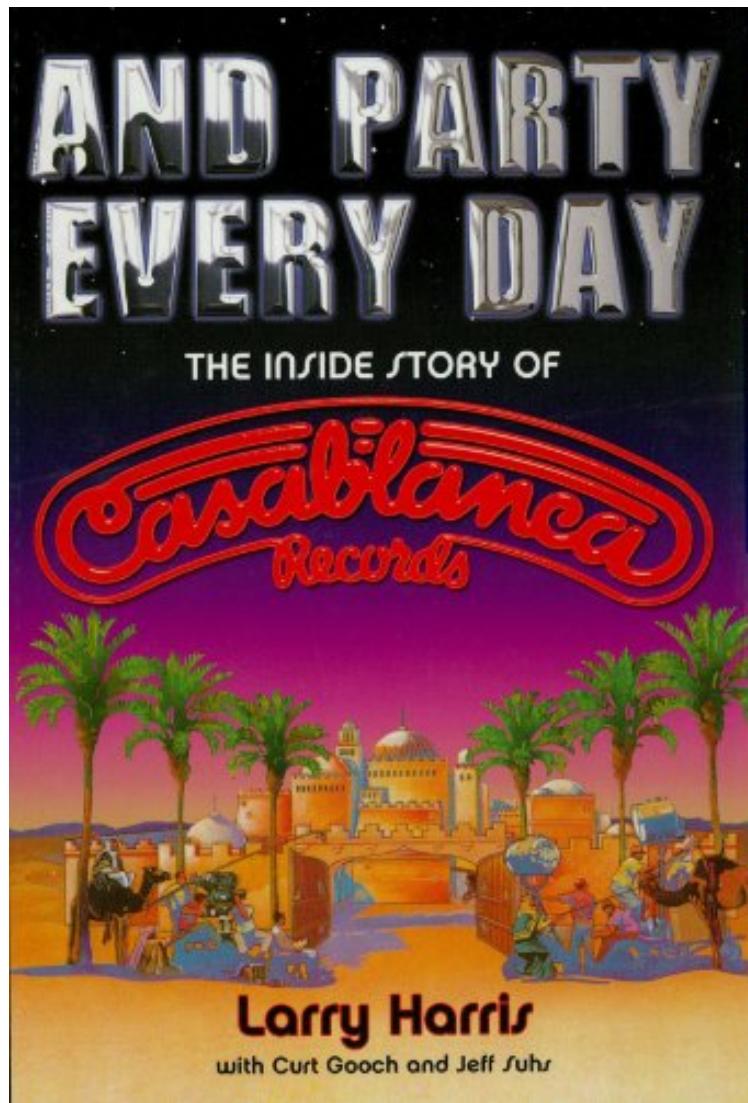


[Free pdf] And Party Every Day: The Inside Story of Casablanca Records

And Party Every Day: The Inside Story of Casablanca Records

Larry Harris, Curt Gooch, Jeff Suhs
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Larry Harris, Curt Gooch, Jeff Suhs : And Party Every Day: The Inside Story of Casablanca Records before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised And Party Every Day: The Inside Story of Casablanca Records:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Well told story about a label that came and went too fastBy JustMikeI was hooked on this book from the first chapter. I remember Casablanca record label as a child and had many of the albums by Kiss and Donna Summer. There was something very distinctive about a Casablanca record, aside from the elaborate logo and the signature album cover art. I can't think of a label that had such instantaneous and simultaneous success that crashed and burned just as quickly. Either way, they had some of the best acts of the time..The Casablanca story is ably told by Larry Harris, Neil Bogart's cousin who had a front row seat to much of the

action and figured in the management of the company and some of their biggest acts, i.e. KISS. It's a shame that we don't have those artists or that kind of label around today. The book doesn't give us a really upclose examinations of thee inner workings of the record business, but it would not be the same today. It is remarkable how such a small operation became such a mega label with huge sales but was always on the brink of financial collapse. It's a roller coaster of a ride to read this book and the end is sad to an extent, probabky because much of thebook mirrors my teenage years and I could pinpoint mioments in my life to pivotal moments in thebook.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Page turner about the celebrated 1970s record companyBy Charles - Music LoverFull disclosure: I think Neil Bogart was a genius. He was one of the key players that defined the late 1970s cultural landscape. He was like the Wizard of Oz who created a world out of smoke and mirrors. And when the party ended, he started over. If he was not felled by cancer in 1982 (at age 39), he would have continued to define the times. I would have loved to read his autobiography. And what remained? The body of musical works released on Casablanca Records still rocks. So, given my fascination with the man, the music, and the company, I was predisposed to love this book. And it is engaging reading. Larry Harris was a distant relation to Bogart and he joined the company at its inception and stayed through mid-1979, when the wheels started to come off the cart. What a ride it was, though. This was the label that broke out and made stars of Kiss, Donna Summer, Giorgio Moroder, and the Village People. For the acts that did not reach superstar status on the label (D. C. Larue, Pattie Brooks, Rare Gems Odyssey, Love and Kisses), they created music that stands up to this day. And the company revived the recording careers of Cher and the Captain and Tennille. "Do That To Me One More Time" was number one on the charts the day Neil Bogart left the label. The straws that broke the camel's back (no pun intended) were Polygram buying a controlling interest in the company and the commercial failures of the Kiss solo albums that led people to peer behind the smoke and mirrors. For a company with such a commanding presence on the charts, Harris claims it was never profitable. Myths are hard to sustain over time, especially in a dollars and cents world, and the party couldn't last forever. But what a party it was.13 of 13 people found the following review helpful. Rocking The CasbahBy Tim BroughIf you were into popular music in the seventies, you knew Casablanca. Started in 1973 by Neil Bogart, Casablanca became the house of Disco and the home of KISS. They also became synonymous with the drug fueled excesses of the seventies and the triumph of image over substance, despite the fact that the label delivered some of the best music of the decade. Hell, Casablanca was the seventies for many in the music world. Head Honcho Neil Bogart was a talent finder extraordinaire and a showman on a level with PT Barnum. No claim was too exaggerated and no gesture was too grandiose. It was once said that he would spend five dollars to show one dollar in profit, and when Casablanca ultimately fell under its own weight, a certain magic of the music industry evaporated with it. Author Larry Harris worked at Buddah/Kama Sutra Records in the summer of 1971, and in 1973 joined his cousin Neil Bogart in founding Casablanca Records. He saw firsthand the carnival of wilding that was Casablanca, and it's his first hand story that fuels "And Party Every Day." While there are plenty of anecdotal stories about Casablanca's biggest stars, like initial signing Kiss and superstars Donna Summer and The Village People, the bulk of "And Party Every Day" focuses on how a young Neil Bogart took his idea for an artist driven record company and built his empire from the ground up. Larry starts the story with a reminiscence of being at Woodstock and realizing he's found his place in the world, then joining Neil in his dream. Along the way the two of them make millions of dollars, spend even more, give the world Kiss, Parliament, Angel and cover the globe with Disco. But there's also the seamier side of egos, drugs, industry politics and manipulations. The decision to release the four solo albums by the members of Kiss and ship over a million copies of each that started the beginning of the end of Casablanca and the behind the scenes battles that caused it. The fudging of figures and the turf wars. Greed, excess and flamboyance. The world of Casablanca Records and Filmworks was both magic and the crazy tale of the man behind the curtain, and Harris does a terrific job in making it readable. Casablanca not only was a record and entertainment company, it was a universe unto itself. "And Party Every Day" takes you on a time machine when music people not only made and sold the music, they sold the dream along with it. It makes me miss the dream, miss the people that built it, makes me wish they were my friends. And I wasn't even there.

(Book). Now it can be told! The true, behind-the-scenes story of Casablanca Records, from an eyewitness to the excess and insanity. Casablanca was not a product of the 1970s, it was the 1970s. From 1974 to 1980, the landscape of American culture was a banquet of hedonism and self-indulgence, and no person or company in that era was more emblematic of the times than Casablanca Records and its magnetic founder, Neil Bogart. From his daring first signing of KISS, through the discovery and superstardom of Donna Summer, the Village People, and funk master George Clinton and his circus of freaks, Parliament Funkadelic, to the descent into the manic world of disco, this book charts Bogart's meteoric success and eventual collapse under the weight of uncontrolled ego and hype. It is a compelling tale of ambition, greed, excess, and some of the era's biggest music acts.

Neil Bogart died in 1982 and, though there has been talk of a biopic for years (it was rumored in 2001 that Gene Simmons wanted to produce it as a Mike Myers vehicle), the actual story of the Los Angeles label he masterminded remained just a series of tall tales and exaggerated drug gossip until now. Larry Harris has emerged from his music-

industry semireirement to pen *And Party Every Day: The Inside Story of Casablanca Records*.... Harris says, We came out with a New York attitude, trying to change things and made a little noise in the process. The book conveys this sense of excitement, as this ambitious, wild bunch from [New York] lands in the supposedly chill, post-hippie L.A. of the Eagles, CSNY and the long-haired ladies of the canyons.... The book contains detailed evidence of the chaotic manipulation of the music charts in the wild days before computer scanning. This fell mostly under Harris purview, and he offers fascinating insight on what these legendary promo men did back in the day. --LA Weekly A delightful new memoir pulls back the veil on an almost-forgotten era.... Larry Harris was front and center--from Woodstock and the discovery of KISS, to the founding of Casablanca, Studio 54 and the origin of Disco. He relates each story with a refreshing humility, often sharing the recall of his own overwhelmed surprise.... *And Party Every Day: The Inside Story of Casablanca Records* is not just an insider account of a major portion of American rock n' roll history--it's a work of cultural anthropology. Those dreams, those experiences, those trips and those days, may well be gone forever...but thanks to Larry Harris we've been blessed with an unabashed look back into our most fantastic and frivolous past. --Blurt.com The rise and fall of the world's most debauched label. The home of Donna Summer and The Village People during their 70s heyday, flamboyant mogul Neil Bogart's Casablanca Records had a license to print money which they promptly blew on drugs, bribes, and outrageous promotional stunts. As cofounder and Bogart's cousin Harris had a front-seat view of the madness. It's all in here, from the drug-fueled meetings to flying a birthday cake first class to Donna Summer, though there's the inescapable sense that it was always going to end in tears. --Q Magazine All this is detailed in no-holds-barred fashion in Harris' new memoir, *And Party Every Day: The Inside Story Of Casablanca Records*, co-written with Curt Gooch and Jeff Suhs. The most dirt-filled music book since MAtilde;para;tley CrAtilde;frac14;e's *The Dirt*, *And Party Every Day* is always entertaining and frequently jaw-dropping, from Harris' description of acting as runner for an enormous amount of cocaine for Curtis Mayfield and several female hotel guests during the Buddah days to tales of calling his own positions on the Billboard charts. --The Onion AV Club Casablanca Records, whose roster included Donna Summer and the Village People, symbolized the excesses of the era better than any other label. Harris, cofounder of Casablanca, with Gooch and Suhs (coauthors, *Kiss Alive Forever*), tells the insider's story of Casablanca, from its 1973 founding through corporate struggles (and lots of sex and drugs) to its 1980s disintegration under the conglomerate PolyGram. Harris details the early career and the breakthrough of Kiss as well as Parliament Funkadelic. He also corrects the story of Casablanca as told in Fredric Dannen's *Hit Men*. Verdict While the graphic details may make even adult readers uncomfortable; anyone open to finding out what the disco era at Casablanca was really like will love this. --Library Journal Xpress Home to Kiss, Donna Summer, and the Village People, Casablanca was the quintessential 1970s record label, run by hype-crazed promo men who believed the best way to make money was to spend mountains of it. Former Casablanca VP Harris tells jaw-dropping tales of chart manipulation, desks piled with drugs...label execs throwing Frisbees out office windows at hookers, and Rodney Dangerfield, who was signed to the label, carrying a Noxzema jar of cocaine. --Rolling Stone Magazine Casablanca Records, whose roster included Donna Summer and the Village People, symbolized the excesses of the era better than any other label. Harris, cofounder of Casablanca, with Gooch and Suhs (coauthors, *Kiss Alive Forever*), tells the insider's story of Casablanca, from its 1973 founding through corporate struggles (and lots of sex and drugs) to its 1980s disintegration under the conglomerate PolyGram. Harris details the early career and the breakthrough of Kiss as well as Parliament Funkadelic. He also corrects the story of Casablanca as told in Fredric Dannen's *Hit Men*. Verdict While the graphic details may make even adult readers uncomfortable; anyone open to finding out what the disco era at Casablanca was really like will love this. --Library Journal Xpress About the Author About the Author Larry Harris began working for Buddah/Kama Sutra Records in the summer of 1971 as the local New York promotions man, and in 1973 joined his cousin Neil Bogart in founding Casablanca Records. He became senior vice president and managing director of the company in 1976 and left Casablanca in the fall of 1980. Larry was born in New York and now lives and works in Seattle.