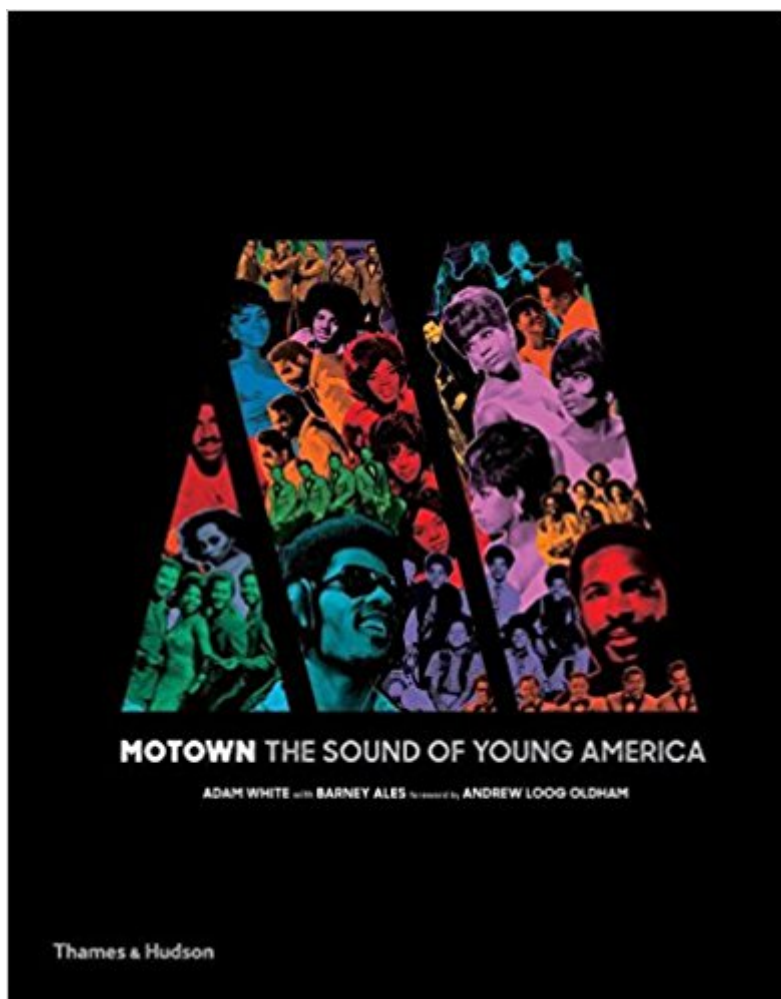


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# Motown: The Sound Of Young America



## Synopsis

The official visual history of Motown, the legendary record label that brought us some of the greatest recording artists of all time—from Stevie Wonder, Diana Ross and Smokey Robinson to Marvin Gaye and The Jackson 5—and changed music forever. The music of Motown defined an era. From The Jackson 5 and Diana Ross to Stevie Wonder and Smokey Robinson, Berry Gordy and his right-hand man, Barney Ales, built the most successful independent record label in the world. Motown not only represented the most iconic recording artists of its time and produced countless global hits, it created a cultural institution that redefined pop, and gave us the vision of a new America: vibrant, innovative, and racially equal. In this first official visual history of the label, new research, a dazzling array of images, and unprecedented access to the archives of the makers and stars of Motown lend new insight to the legend. In addition to extensive specially commissioned photography of treasures extracted from the Motown archives, as well as the personal collections of Barney Ales and Motown stars, *Motown: The Sound of Young America* draws on interviews with key players from the label's colorful history, including Motown founder Berry Gordy, Barney Ales, Smokey Robinson, Mary Wilson, founding member of the Supremes, and many more. 1000+ illustrations

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

“A lavishly illustrated, wonderfully written history of Motown. Balanced insider knowledge packed with fabulous photographs and album art that celebrates the record label that provided the

soundtrack to exciting and changing times. Not to be missed, this is a book to get lost in. Fans should be dancing in the streets. [Library Journal](#) “Does an incredible job of examining just what happened in the building that housed America’s most influential record label. This beautifully packaged book holds a staggering amount of interviews with the label’s influencers and recording artists along with absolutely stunning photographs from all of the eras and iterations of Motown. [BookPage](#) “Thoroughly engaging” Packed with iconic photographs of Motown stars, plus album covers, posters, and so much more. Should land on music lovers’ Christmas lists. [Hour Detroit](#) “A visual history of the pride of Detroit, this book has behind-the-scenes photographs, album art, essential images and interviews with Motown legends that will have fans dancing in the street.” [Los Angeles Times](#) “In the first official visual history of the label, new research and unprecedented access lend new insight to the legend.” [Billboard](#) “With more than 1,000 color and black-and-white photographs, this 400-page history deserves an honored space on your coffee table—if you can tear yourself away from this meticulously documented saga of autoworker Berry Gordy’s brilliant business strategies and knack for identifying a hit song.” [Downbeat](#)

Adam White has written about music for more than forty years. He scripted the Grammy-nominated radio documentary *The Motown Story*, was editor-in-chief at *Billboard*, and coauthored *The Billboard Book of No. 1 R&B Hits*. He was vice president of communications at Universal Music Group International from 2002 to 2012. Barney Ales was Berry Gordy’s right-hand man. Ales rose to become executive vice president and then served as its president from 1975 to 1978. Andrew Loog Oldham is a record producer, talent manager and author.

This is an amazing book dealing with the entire history of Motown. The photographs are incredible, and the text kept me engaged for days. I already knew about this history, but I learned so much more from this book.

Just received book today & was surprised by its generous size chock full of color photographs of artists, LP covers, record labels, etc. Barney Ales was known as a true record man and beloved by his staff. Great that Mr. Ales has finally decided to give Motown fans an inside view of the inner workings of this great label, its artists, and the staff that made the hits happen!

Beautiful book - the perfect gift for old school music lovers like me!

Very well done !!! Thanks a lot.

Thought it was very well written by Adam White with Barney Ales collaborating with White on the story of Motown's rise to fame. The pictures were an excellent addition seeing the founders and stars of Motown.. It is definitely a coffee table book, that one must have.

Honestly, I expected so much more considering the 5 star reviews on UK. Sharon Davis' "The Motown Story" had almost as many photos and album artwork. I wanted to hear more from Barney Ales and some of the marketing campaigns. I own most of the books about Motown from coffee table books as this and bios from Mr. Gordy, Diana, Smokey, Marvin, Mary Wells and Wilson, etc. So maybe my expectations were too high. It is a beautiful coffee table book, but, so is Tracy Jordan's anniversary book. Only Stevie and Marvin, and to a lesser degree Diana and The Supremes, have Wikipedia features on their individual albums. Janet Jackson's "janet" has an in depth read while milestone releases like "More Hits by..." Or "sing Holland, Dozier, Holland", "T.C.B.", "Diana Ross & The Supremes JOIN The Temptations", "A Go Go", albums that stunned music lovers around the globe.

Beautiful and soulful pics. This book captures the Motown era. Even my 16yr old grand daughter was captivated. Wonderful for teaching moments.

A nice Motown resource

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