

LIMITED EDITION CLASSIC LPs
HIGH-DEFINITION PREMIUM VINYL PRESSING
FOR SUPER FIDELITY



Original George Neumann
Cutting System

VINYL
CLASSICS

IIIIII AUDIOPHILE GRADE IIIIIII

PURE VIRGIN VINYL

180 GRAM

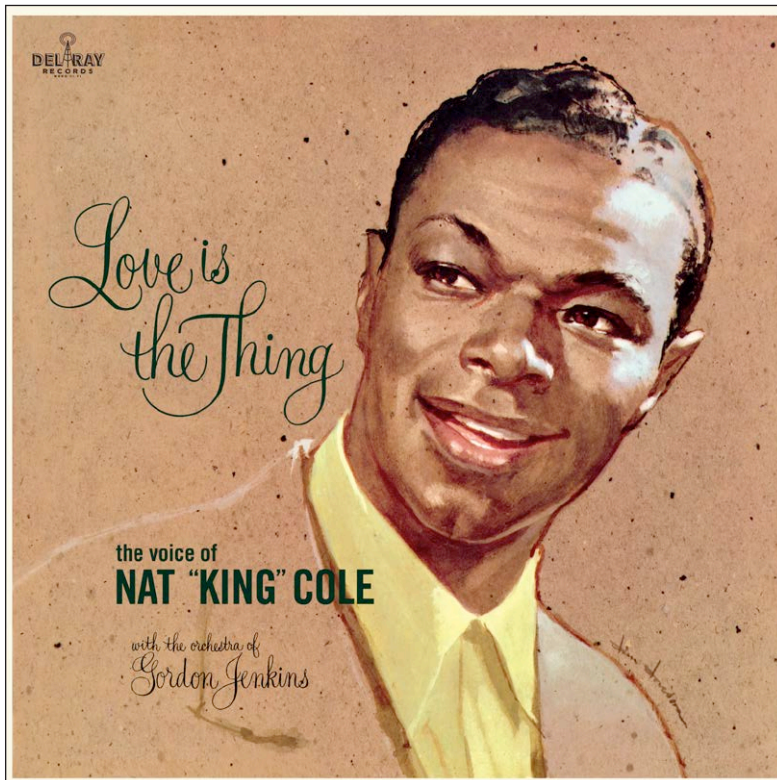
- HIGH FIDELITY
- COLLECTOR'S EDITION
- NEWLY REMASTERED
- DELUXE INNER SLEEVES

LIMITED EDITION

LONG PLAY 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ R.P.M.

NAT KING COLE

LOVE IS THE THING



SIDE 1

1. WHEN I FALL IN LOVE (3:11)
(Edward Heyman-Victor Young)
2. STARDUST (3:17)
(Hoagy Carmichael-Mitchell Parish)
3. STAY AS SWEET AS YOU ARE (3:00)
(Harry Revel-Mack Gordon)
4. WHERE CAN I GO WITHOUT YOU? (2:59)
(Peggy Lee-Victor Young)
5. MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE I LOVE YOU TOO MUCH (2:50)
(Irving Berlin)
6. LOVE LETTERS (2:48)
(Edward Heyman-Victor Young)

SIDE 2

1. AIN'T MISBEHAVIN' (3:18)
(Andy Razaf-Fats Waller-Harry Brooks)
2. I THOUGHT ABOUT MARIE (3:09)
(Gordon Jenkins)
3. AT LAST (3:01)
(Harry Warren-Mack Gordon)
4. IT'S ALL IN THE GAME (3:09)
(Charles G. Dawes-Carl Sigman)
5. WHEN SUNNY GETS BLUE (2:48)
(Marvin Fisher-Jack Segal)
6. LOVE IS THE THING (3:02)
(Victor Young-Ned Washington)

Love Is the Thing is a 1957 album released by American jazz vocalist **Nat King Cole**. It is the first of four collaborations between Cole and influential arranger Gordon Jenkins. Launching the charting single "Stardust", which peaked at #79, the album reached #1 on Billboard's "Pop Albums" chart and tied at #1 on the UK Charts with the soundtrack for the 1956 film *The King and I*. According to the records of the RIAA, the album achieved gold status in 1960 and broke platinum in 1992. The LP was Nat's first gold album.

Nat King Cole's collaborations with Gordon Jenkins rank among the finest from either artist or arranger. Cole's first stereophonic long player, 1957's *Love Is the Thing* remains the epitome of the pair's undeniable compatibility, and it topped the album charts for eight weeks. The opener "When I Fall in Love" is considered by many to be nothing short of definitive; the restrained orchestration perfectly adapts to the singer's verdant vocals. Similarly, "Stardust" sparkles as a flawless musical

alliance is formed with Cole's warm and inviting narrative weaving over Jenkins' intimate score. Simply stated, both songs are unmitigated masterworks – and we're only two cuts into the dozen-song LP. Another key to the project's success is Jenkins' ability to reign in just enough instrumentation to support Cole's uniformly restrained leads. Examples abound throughout, with "Stay as Sweet as You Are," "At Last," and the rural sophistication of "When Sunny Gets Blue." The heartfelt "Love Letters" and even the comparatively light "Ain't Misbehavin'" incorporate a sonic synergy as the airy string section glides between Cole's line by line phrasing. Also worth mentioning is the Jenkins original "I Thought About Marie," as it sits comfortably beside some of the most time-honored tunes in 20th century popular music. (Lindsay Planer, AMG)

★★★★ 1/2 (AMG)