

• Review Spotlight on Albums . . .

• Continued from page 35

----- Sound Albums -----

DESTINATION STEREO

Various Artists—RCA Victor LSC 2307

STEREO ONLY

Here's a solid commercial stereo demonstrator, featuring top-flight stereo sound performances by a group of powerful name classical artists. A couple of light pop selections are included, but most of the album is in a classical vein ("Sabre Dance," "Capriccio Espagnol," etc.) Line-up includes Artur Schnabel, Fritz Reiner, Arthur Schnabel, Kiril Kondrashin, Morton Gould, Alfred Wallenstein and Charles Munch.



----- Specialty Albums -----

IF THERE IS SOMEONE LOVELIER THAN YOU

Music Minus One Ork.—Music Minus One Vol. 1001

NOW DIG THIS! JAZZ IN 2 KEYS

Various Artists—Music Minus One MMO Vol. 10

Two more fine offerings from the clever "MMO" series. "If There Is Someone Lovelier Than You" spotlights smooth arrangements that allow for vocals or solo instruments on several warmly treated standards. "Now Dig This" is more of the same but jazz approaches are used. For the starting professional or for sheer amateur entertainment, it will be hard to beat these gems. Arrangements are by Coleridge T. Perkinson.



• Reviews and Ratings of New Popular Albums

• Continued from page 35

the Gershwin brothers. Tunes were arranged by Don Costa and the ork well conducted by Nick Perito. Singer has strong appeal.

*** MUSIC TO LISTEN TO RECORDS —EYDIE ADAMS SINGS? With Henry Mancini Ork. MGM E 3751

STEREO & MONAURAL

Tho the title is somewhat confusing, this set captures a good mimic and comedienne at work. Miss Adams is known for her take-off of Marilyn Monroe and a number of these tracks have the Monroe sound. Her rendition of "School Days" is sly and suggestive, while "Blue Tail Fly" is a cute parody on a particular genre of folk singer. Fine backings are contributed by Henry "Peter Gunn" Mancini. A happy spoof that can be sold.

*** ONCE UPON A SUMMERTIME Blossom Dearie. Verve MG V 2111

The soft, caressing, little-girlish style of Miss Dearie comes thru like a ton of sugar on this delightful grouping. Gal accompanies herself with her pleasant keyboarding and she's backed by Mundell Lowe, Ray Brown and Ed Thigpen on guitar, bass and drums respectively. Fine selection of tunes in this jazz oriented cocktail piano-vocal set includes "Moonlight Saving Time," "It Amazes Me," and title tune of the album. Mighty smart stuff and good programming for the hipper jocks.

*** AL MELGRAND AT THE CHICAGO STADIUM ORGAN VOL. 1 Audio Fidelity AFLP 1887

Excellent sound enhances the versatile instrument in this performance of organ favorites. Unusual arrangements of "A Tisket, a Tasket," "Mexican Hat Dance," and "Baruska Polka." Should be a favorite with organ music and hi fi fans.

*** MOORE'S TOUR Johnny Dankworth Ork. MGM E 3752

STEREO & MONAURAL

Orkster-arranger Phil Moore went to England last year and recorded a flock of sounds—birds, bells, foghorns, waves breaking on the shore of Land's End, etc.—all reminiscent of Britain. These he worked into a number of colorful orchestral sketches of the country like "Ruins of Stonehenge," "Dawn at Dover," "Picadilly Parade," etc. All recording was done in England, with the band comprising the members of Johnny Dankworth's ork. Novel ideas get a superior recording job and Anglophiles will like it particularly.

*** PIANO PATTERNS Cecil Lloyd. 20th Fox 3910
The 22-year-old Lloyd is the toast of Jamaica, where for five years he has been

popular as a stylish pianist and bandleader at the smart Tower Island Hotel. On this set, he plays with nary a trace of local West Indies color but rather in an ultra-smart cocktail piano setting, with rhythm accompaniment. Keyboarding is clean and crisp and the recording quality is top. Bright mood material.

*** SUPERSONICS IN FLIGHT Billy Mure. Guitar. RCA Victor LSP 1869 & LPM 1869

STEREO & MONAURAL

This album is inspired by the Navy jet fighter, F11F-1, the Tiger. Mure and his guitar ensemble with their rapid-fire fingering, are supposedly capturing the speed and excitement of this modern aircraft. Actually there is little of the jet sound here. The production, however, has a fine sound and the artists are adept at their work. The guitars are heard with various types of percussion and in some cases with organ. Musically interesting and the set has a beat.

*** 8 BRASS — 5 SAX — 4 RHYTHM Skip Martin Ork. MGM E 3743

Topflight band and film musical arranger Martin makes sweetly swing music, with excellent solo segs via the services of the title aggregation "8 brass, 5 sax, 4 rhythm." It's highly danceable stuff and also registers strongly as good jockey material. Instrumentals include "East of the Sun," "The Best Things in Life Are Free" and "Villa."

*** LOVE IS A SWINGIN' WORD Sid Ramin Ork. RCA Victor LSP 1924 & LPM 1924

STEREO & MONAURAL

Here is an excellent stereo album, with Ramin providing swiny, smart instrumental treatments of some memorable standards. Spinnable items for jocks. Selections (all featuring the word "love" in their titles) include "The Lady's in Love With You," "Love," "Comes Loves," etc.

LOW-PRICE CHILDREN'S ***

*** GREER GARSON BABY SITS WITH STORIES AND SONGS Lion L 70102

Miss Garson's attempt at a singing introduction does not come off too effectively, but once she gets to the story-telling she does a good job indeed at holding the youngsters' attention. It's more or less a story-telling junket around a group of distant lands and into this framework are worked such stories as "Sinbad, the Sailor," "Pass In Boots," "Dick Whittington," etc. Favorite stories, well told by a name attraction such as Miss Garson should easily accomplish a good sales level.

FOLK ***

*** VODOO DRUMS IN HI-FI Atlantic 1296

Recorded on location in Haiti, this is a fascinating piece of exotica which should be of much interest to specialty shops, scholars, educational organizations, etc. Drums and voodoo pervade the spirit of Haitian life and this disk captures that aspect of the country's culture. Cover art and the liner notes are distinct sales aids, the former being an eye catcher and the latter, by Gary Kramer, a scholarly exposition.

*** THE DRUMS OF AFRICA Prince Ono & Princess Muana with native drummers. 20th Fox 3000

All the wild, tribal magic of the natives of the Ruanda Urundi territory (which borders on the East Central Belgian Congo) is captured on this record. Emotional and orgiastic drum beating and chanting is featured which depicts the various ceremonials of love, death and battle. Disk has an excellent sound and for collectors of this lore, it makes an interesting item.

INTERNATIONAL **

*** MUSICA FLAMENICA Nino Ricardo, Guitar. Epic LC 3556

Nino Ricardo, who studies with Carlos Montoya among others, proves himself deft and responsive in the dozen Flamenco guitar solos represented on this disk. If he falls a bit short of the ultimate in depth, emotion and fluidity, he nevertheless shows himself to be a major artist in this genre. The recorded sound is somewhat glassy, cutting into the instrument's necessary resonance.

LOW-PRICE

LATIN AMERICAN ****

*** CHIQUI CHA Joe Morand Ork. Rico RLP 3004
Veteran Latin maestro Morand provides pleasant, smoothly rhythmic instrumental interpretations of familiar Latin tunes — "Green Eyes," "Magdalena" etc. Highly danceable wax, which should sell well in low-priced field.

LOW-PRICE

LATIN AMERICAN ***

*** LET'S DANCE Armando Valdespi Ork. Rico RLP 3005
Latin style, dance items can also have appeal in pop-marts for those who dig the Latin dance steps. Vocals on the selections are in Spanish. Prime appeal, of course, will be in this market. On the racks, however, this can get its share of coin.

LOW-PRICE

LATIN AMERICAN **

** CHA CHA IN THE MOONLIGHT Cheo Belen Puig Ork. Rico RLP 3002
The Latin terp set will get a kick out of this smartly made cha cha waxing, featuring the Cheo Belen Puig ork. Tunes include "Errante Y Bohemio," "Viva El King" and many other originals. Tunes are played with authenticity and excitement.

** CHA CHA RHYTHM Ramon Marquez Ork. Rico RLP 3001

The authentic Latin sounding band turns in a danceable collection of cha cha rhythms. There are a dozen bands in all. The market is glutted with this type of material in all price ranges but the novel, caricature-like cover drawing could give this a salable point.

** TANGO MERENGUE Don Santiago & El Rey De Tango. Rico RLP 3003

Program of Latin dance music, specifically the tango and merengue. Unfortunately

the sound is not especially good, but the low price combined with the big Latin market, should make it move well on the racks. Prime appeal for the Latin communities.

POLKA ***

*** I LOVE TO POLKA Li'l Wally. Jay Jay LP 5000

STEREO & MONAURAL

There's a gay, rollicking sound about this venture, with the happy shouts of dancers breaking thru the ork sounds from time to time. The music is well played and contains a sprinkling of waltzes to vary the pattern. Li'l Wally is well-known among the polka-minded population of Chicago and sales there particularly should be rewarding. Stereo quality is good enough but that would not appear a major sales point in this primarily dancing idiom.

SOUND ****

*** AUDIO FIDELITY STEREO-DISC Audio Fidelity AFSD 5890

STEREO ONLY

Packaged in a special two-flap job, this disk uses narrative, music and sound effects — much of it from other disks in the line — to demonstrate the meaning of stereophonic sound. Both inside covers carry diagrams and expository passages—which, with the material on the disk—will be of interest to new fans.

SPECIALTY ****

*** FUEGO DEL ANDE Yma Sumac. Capitol ST 1169

STEREO & MONAURAL

An intriguing set of folkish songs are delivered with the artist's usual amazing versatility. She does marvelous things with her voice. Various tempos and ork settings and some numbers with chorus even further evidence her artistry. Excellent potential with this wide-appeal offering.

• Reviews and Ratings of New Classical Albums

CLASSICAL ****

*** BRAHMS: VIOLIN CONCERTO Arthur Grumiaux, Violin with The Concertgebouw Ork. of Amsterdam (Van Beinum). Epic LC 3552

A number of prominent violin virtuosos are represented with recorded versions of this bright and tuneful work, which can mean stiff competition. Grumiaux, however, handles the material in a sympathetic manner. In the various passages which call for swift and electrical movement of fingering, he shows considerable dexterity. The orchestra and soloist work with good rapport in the recording. Artistic cover can attract a measure of interest. Set is worth an effort.

*** STRAVINSKY: APOLLON MUSAGETE, RENARD L'Orchestre de la Suisse Romande (Ansermet). London CS 6034

STEREO & MONAURAL

These are lesser-known Stravinsky works, but this album should get them a wide hearing. Apollon Musagete is a lovely classical ballet score, sans dissonances, which receives an illuminating performance by Ansermet. In strong contrast is Renard, which is music played behind a pantomime. It features a biting score dominated by

braying brass, plus woodwinds, percussion and cymbalom, and with two tenors, a baritone and a bass singing the sardonic roles of the Fox, Cock, Goat and Cat. Lyrics are in French.

CLASSICAL ***

*** MOZART: EINE KLEINE NACHTMUSIK; TCHAIKOVSKY: SERENADE FOR SPRINGS The Israel Philharmonic Ork. (Solti). London CS 6066

These perennially popular works for string orchestra are given a glowing reading by the Israelis. Tone is full, rich and warm and the coupling offers an interesting contrast in composition; the passion of Tchaikovsky and the sprightly order of Mozart. Stereo enhances, without getting in the way of the music.

*** RAVEL: MA MERE L'OYE; DEBUSSY: NOCTURNES L'Orchestre de la Suisse Romande (Ansermet). London CS 6023

STEREO & MONAURAL

The coupling of these impressionist works of broad appeal should find many buyers.

(Continued on page 40)

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