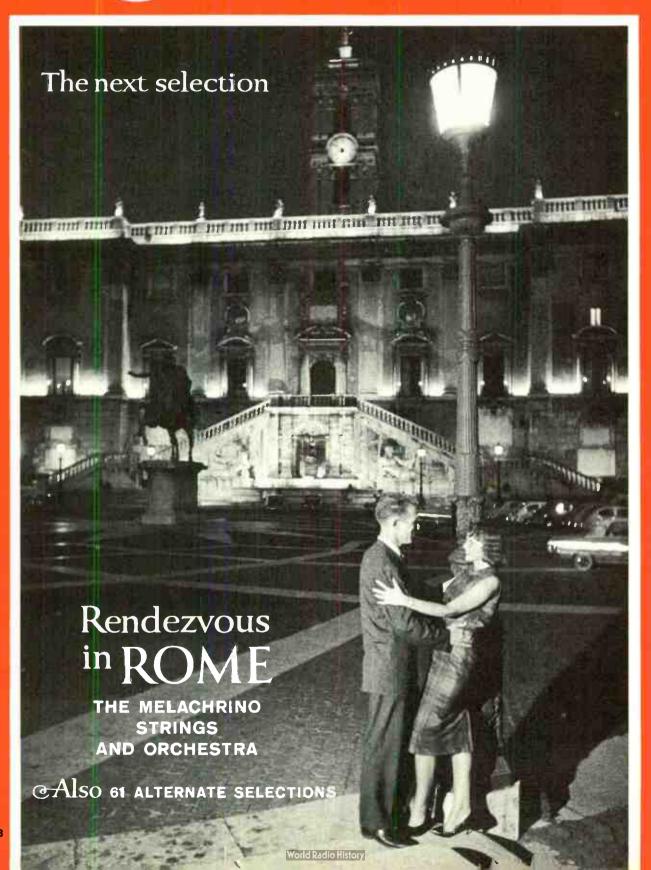


The monthly magazine of the RCA VICTOR POPULAR ALBUM CLUB



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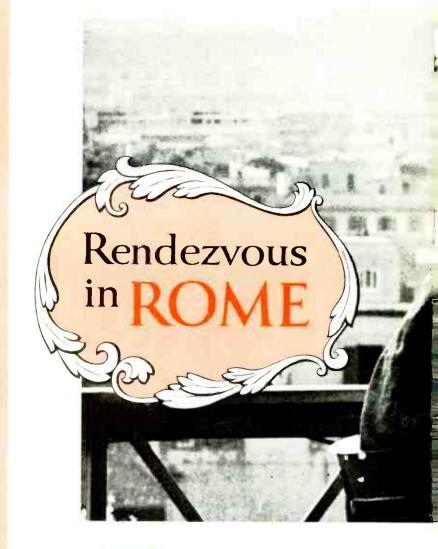
A MUSICAL "SPECTACULAR" AN EVENING WITH LERNER & LOEWE

A special two-disc album. . PAGE 16

#### SOME IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- PLEASE DO NOT SEND CASH when making payments to the Club. It is not safe to entrust cash to ordinary mails, and we cannot be held responsible for cash remittances unless they are registered. For your protection we request that you pay either by check or by money order.
- TO SPEED DELIVERY of your albums and to reduce the possibility of error, the Club requests that members, when ordering Alternates, print both the title and number of each album desired. Space is provided for this on your regular substitution form.
- ABOUT DIVIDEND CERTIFICATES Members who have purchased the number of albums called for in the initial membership agreement will receive a Dividend Certificate with the purchase of any album listed in this issue of the Popular Album News. Two such certificates will entitle the member to choose one twelve-inch long-playing RCA Victor album without charge. This represents a continuing saving of 33½%— and occasionally as much as 38%—over the manufacturer's nationally advertised price on the albums bought from the Club. Your Dividend Catalog and Supplements offer a broad choice of both popular and classical (Red Seal) recordings.

## THE MELACHRINO



AMILIARITY with the soothing, soaring string arrangements of George Melachrino breeds only content.

Melachrino is easily the world's most famous exponent of romantic instrumental mood music, and his previous Club offerings have enjoyed enthusiastic response. His latest can't help but follow suit.

It is BENDEZVOUS IN ROME, a bold and brilliant mood portrait of Rome, painted, and literally shimmering, with the vivid songs, sounds and colors of that fabled Italian city. As are all Mela-

THIS SELECTION WILL BE SENT TO YOU



chrino albums, it was recorded in London in the "British sound" so relished by high fidelity fans.

The liner notes by travel editor Richard Joseph (who, interestingly, has recently been decorated with the Star of Italian Solidarity for furthering Italo-American understanding) word-picture its sunny contents:

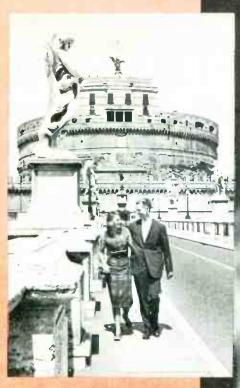
Not to exploit the already overworked cliché about all roads leading to Rome, but these two sides should really prove to be your way to an aural understanding of the Italian capital.

Arranged and conducted by an outstanding

British musician (who wrote four of the twelve selections), the album was recorded in Londonvet the sounds are authentically Roman, right from the beginning when the noises of your train passing over the tracks leading into Rome, the babble of voices in the modern, new station and the bells of the great basilicas are your introduction to the Eternal City.

And the entire album is equally evocative. The first number, Rome the City, is an original composition recording George Melachrino's musical impressions of the city that has become the fa-

(Continued on page 3)



## RENDEZVOUS IN ROME

THE MELACHRINO STRINGS AND ORCHESTRA

Rome the City
Volare (Nel biu
dipinto di blu)
Scene from "Castel Sant"
Angelo" (from Tosca)

Tesoro Mio

Three Coins in the Fountain

View of the Vatican

Colosseum

Autostrada

Ragazza Romanza

VIsta Roma

italian Fantasy

Arrivederci, Roma

A "NEW ORTHOPHONIC"
HIGH FIDELITY RECORDING

LPM 1955 \$3.98

RECORDED IN LONDON



(Continued from page 1)

vorite European haunt of an increasing number of Americans every year since the end of World War II. *Volare*, played here in dance tempo, is one of Italy's most popular musical exports to the United States in the past few years.

Castel Sant' Angelo is the love duet from the last act of Tosca, but its title denotes one of Rome's most popular sightseeing attractions, the turreted castle by the side of the Tiber that once was the tomb of Emperor Hadrian and a private fortress of the popes during the Middle Ages. It was here that pilgrims saw a vision of St. Michael the Archangel sheathing his sword as a sign of the ending of a great plague.

Castel Sant' Angelo segues into Tesoro Mio, a street-dancing tune that will prove familiar to most American listeners. Even more familiar is Three Coins in the Fountain, which follows. Melachrino ends the side with another original composition, View of the Vatican, giving his musical impression of the vastness and grandeur of this mightiest shrine of Christendom and the world's largest church. Here—in this world's smallest independent state—three hundred thousand pilgrims have stood in the great piazza of St. Peter's to receive the Pope's benediction. You hear the bells of the basilica in Melachrino's composition, and the majesty of St. Peter's comes to you through the music.

Side 2 starts off with another Melachrino original, *Colosseum*, and while you don't exactly hear the lions roar or the martyrs scream, you do get a vivid impression of this most imposing of all Roman antiquities, almost 1900 years old, that once seated almost 50,000 spectators at the ancient gladiatorial games.

Short of having your flanks brushed by a moving fender, *Autostrada* conveys as fully as possible the complete madness of Roman traffic. *Ragazza Romanza*, which honors the romantic young ladies of Rome, is a dance tune; and an-

Other Melachrino Albums
Still Available as Alternates

LPM 1000 • MUSIC FOR DINING, \$3.98

LPM 1001 • MUSIC FOR RELAXATION, \$3.98

LPM 1002 • MUSIC FOR READING, \$3.98

LPM 1676 • UNDER WESTERN SKIES, \$3.98

LPM 1757 • STRAUSS WALTZES, \$3.98

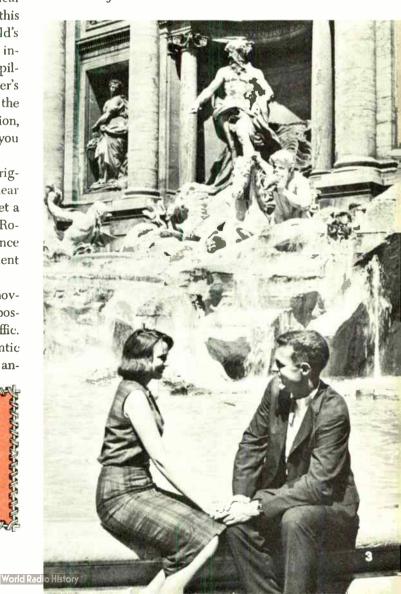
LPM 1762 • LISBON AT TWILIGHT, \$3.98

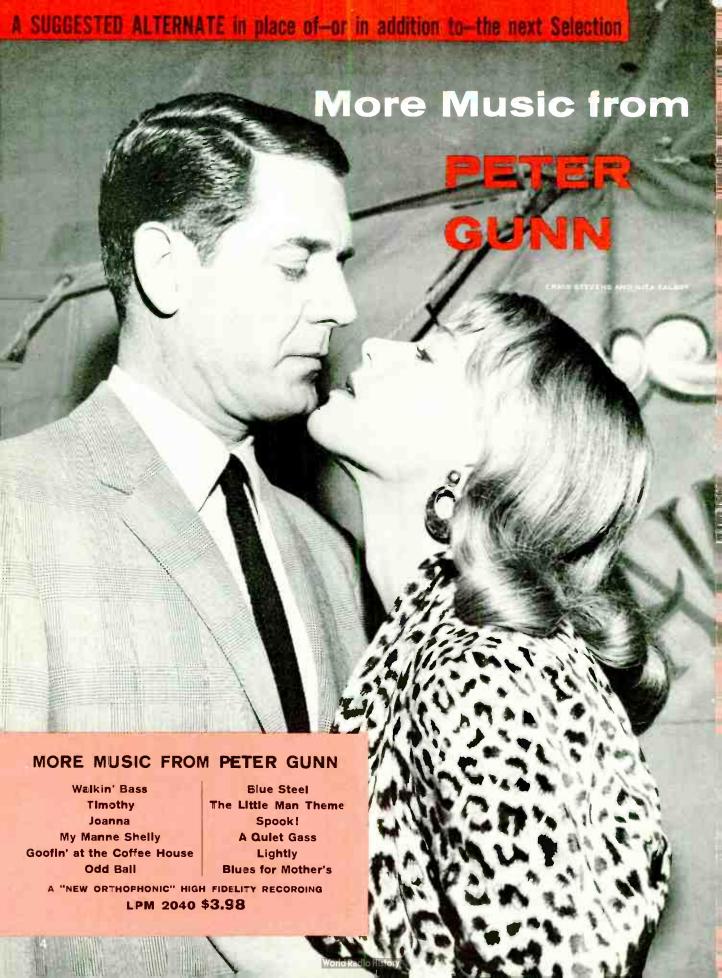
other Melachrino composition, *Vista Roma*, features an oboe solo by Leon Goossens and the sound of the hooves of carriage horses clip-clopping over worn cobblestones.

Melachrino's *Italian Fantasy* is his arrangement of a potpourri of traditional Italian tunes, including Neapolitan street songs. He closes with *Arrivederci*, *Roma*, which can't quite be called traditional yet, but simply because it's not yet old enough.

And with these two sides George Melachrino once again demonstrates the fact that he's a musical tourist in the best sense of the word, displaying a lively curiosity about the music of other lands and other peoples.

"An appealing, restful and, for those who know Rome, a nostalgic set. A delightful mood album handsomely recorded"—THE BILLBOARD





## Composed and conducted by HENRY MANCINI

FROM THE SOUNDTRACK OF THE NBC-TV SERIES PETER GUNN

"The first Peter Gunn outing by Mancini is currently one of the hottest albums in the country, and now its composer-conductor directs twelve more of his originals from the TVer. With a line-up of first-rate musicians, Mancini has turned out another outstanding jazz date."— CASH BOX

CA VICTOR had Gunn and traveled—right to the top of the best-seller charts!

The Gunn we mean, naturally, is The Music from Peter Gunn (LPM 1956) which, hot on the heels of its national release, rocketed into the nation's No. 1 sales slot, swung off with two of the top Grammy Awards presented by the National Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences (one for being Album of the Year; the other for Best Arrangement), proved itself a "blockbuster" Club Alternate and—on records and in TV whodunits—inspired more imitators than Bette Davis.

Here, by popular demand, is its swinging sequel, MORE MUSIC FROM PETER GUNN—more crackling modern jazz from the NBC-TV series starring manly Craig Stevens and womanly (!) Lola Albright. Already it is nudging toward the retail sales summit.

If jazz has any geographical implications, the all-star Hollywood musicians who appear in the album present a strong case for the West Coast being, in the best jazz sense, the Best Coast. Among the soloists are Pete Candoli, trumpet; Dick Nash, trombone; Ted Nash, alto sax, piccolo, alto flute; Plas Johnson, tenor sax; Ronny Lang, baritone sax, alto flute; John Williams, piano; Bob Bain, guitar; Rolly Bundock and Joe Mondragon, bass; Vic Feldman and Larry Bunker, vibes; Shelly Manne, drums.

HE selections in this new, adventurous visit to *Gunns*ville are titled for incidents or characters featured in the best-received episodes of the rating-busting TV series. Shuttling the mood spectrum from tenderness to toughness, MORE MUSIC FROM PETER GUNN is, like its predecessor, brilliantly written and arranged,

flawlessly recorded and explosively played.

The tension-building Walkin' Bass, showcasing bedrock Bundock, is the familiar theme underscoring the TV show's opening action (when, backhanding tradition, Gunn word slinger Blake Edwards unmasks murder, murdered and murderer). Timothy, a happy-as-a-clam jazz march showering piccolo-lit sparks all the way, is delightfully in keeping with its slippery subject.

Dick Nash's warm trombone etches a lovely mood portrait of *Joanna*. For the "beat" generation, there's *My Manne Shelly*, a relaxed recital by the fine modern drummer fellow drummers refer to as "the Manne." A finger-snapping bow to the beatniks, *Goofin' at the Coffee House*, is solid musical meatnik, yielding prime cuts of Candoli's stream-of-consciousness trumpet and Lang's inventive alto flute.



ANCINI's resourceful mixing of piccolos with muted brass and several exciting solos make *Odd Ball* an audio "ball."

Blue Steel glows white-hot with lashing open brass capped by the searing stratospherics of lead trumpeter Conrad Gozzo. The Little Man Theme is a happy, piccolos-led trip to Bluesville. Spook!, spanked by a heavy backbeat, piano triplets and bristling brass, rocks and rolls behind Plas Johnson's gutty tenor sax.

A Quiet Gass and Lightly are freewheeling chamber-jazz vehicles for the rhythm section plus vibes, with especially decorous contributions by pianist Williams, vibist Feldman and guitarist Bain. Although written around Ted Nash's fattoned alto sax, Blues for Mother's (dedicated to Peter Gunn's favorite spa) also packs lusty sectional connotations—with the brass, reed and rhythm sections getting ample room to strut their ensemble stuff.

MORE MUSIC FROM PETER GUNN is a forceful album of unforced charm. Modern-jazz fans have been waiting for it. For *Gunn* TViewers it will recall many of the show's more memorable moments. Jazz initiates and mood-music buyers will find it rewarding. "Sound" investors couldn't find a more dramatic demonstration record.



## GEORGE GERSHWIN PLAYS HIS OWN Rhapsody in Blue IN HI FI

## Piano Roll Discoveries

"This disc . . . establishes conclusively that almost every pianist who has touched the *Rhapsody* since Gershwin's time has played it wrong. . . . Gershwin's phrasing of the work is vastly different from what we have become used to. Gone, in this performance, are the soggy romanticism and overbroadened lines, and replacing them are a rhythmic punch and sardonic wit that Gershwin evidently intended to be integral to the work. [This disc] shows that the *Rhapsody* has more guts and backbone than it is generally given credit for. No pianist should ever again perform it without first listening to this L.P."—Down Beat

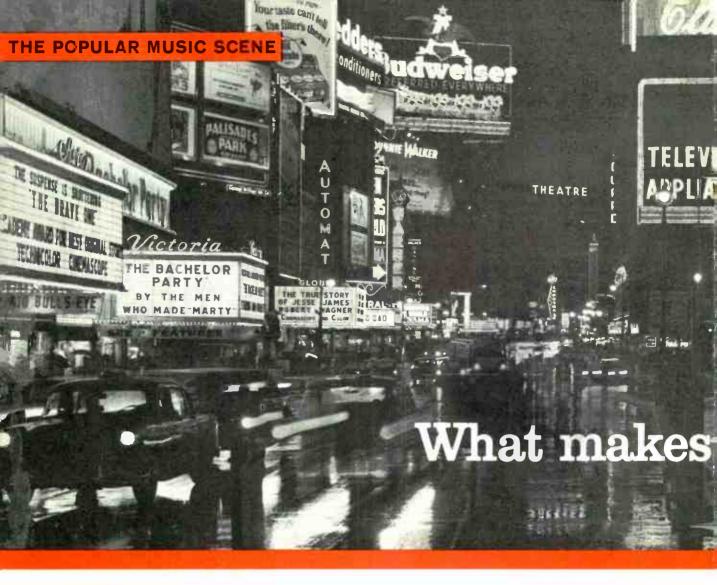
HIS singularly authentic *Rhapsody in Blue*, played by the composer himself in high fidelity (though Gershwin died in 1937), would seem to be enough of an attraction for this novel disc, but there is much more! It also provides the first truly hi fi (and stereo) recordings by the late jazz giants Fats Waller and James P. Johnson and by those master creators of jazz "novelettes"—Zez Confrey and Felix Arndt.

The lives, or the active performing careers, of these men were finished before high fidelity recording techniques were developed, but fortunately some of their classic performances were etched during the 1920s on player-piano rolls.

Player pianos were popular parlor fixtures in pre-radio days, and the best of them could reproduce music from rolls in a manner that made it impossible to differentiate the "playback" from an actual live performance. This was true particularly in the case of rolls made by Duo-Art for its own de luxe pianos. All (Continued on page 15)







T does not require a historian of the theater to point out that the best musical shows of the last fifteen years are almost without exception based on important works of literature. Green Grow the Lilacs became Oklahoma!, Liliom turned into Carousel, and Pygmalion is now My Fair Lady. The Bard himself godfathered two musical triumphs—Kiss Me Kate and West Side Story, the latter proving that a musical need not be all gaiety and laughter to be successful.

And yet using a literary work as a starting point does not guarantee success. There are those who ask, "How could My Fair Lady miss, with Shaw's Pygmalion to work with?" The answer is that fine

FRANZ ALLERS, no stranger to musical-theater goers, is musical director of My Fair Lady. He has served in the same key capacity for several other hit Broadway musicals, among them Brigadoon and Paint Your Wagon.

works by James Hilton or—just recently—Sean O'Casey could not survive the same operation, in spite of the efforts of the finest directors, choreographers, designers. What they lacked is that indefinable dimension which makes the Great Ones great.

Take two touching wartime stories by James Michener, blend them ingeniously into one, create a chain of enchanting songs, engage two contrasting but happily matched stars of the first order (such as Mary Martin and the late Ezio Pinza), and out of the alchemist's vial comes South Pacific. Start with a fresh viewpoint, the highest of Shaw's comedies, write brilliant period music and sophisticated lyrics to match Shaw's wit, bring in a star (such as Rex Harrison) who has never sung a note, and you have My Fair Lady.

Is it as easy as that? Why then does the alchemist's formula not always succeed? Why the dis-



couraging failures? Maybe you cannot repeat experiments: one Rex Harrison brings on a vogue of voiceless musical stars who cannot breathe the same kind of life into a composer's fine music. One inspired dream sequence in Oklahoma! starts an epidemic of dream ballets. But that dance in Oklahoma! was right—it was drama and action, not just an interlude of dance. So was that great scene in Carouse!, when Billy Bigelow's daughter relived her childhood in fantasy. And today we have those terrifying dances of the street gangs—the Jets and the Sharks—in West Side Story, translating the ancient story of Romeo and Juliet into the dance language of the present.

The delicate blending of story and music is probably the main secret of triumphant transformation from James Michener to Rodgers and Hammerstein, from George Bernard Shaw to Lerner and Loewe. Remember the end of South

Pacific? Emile de Becque returns from a dangerous war mission; Nellie Forbush is moved beyond words, and the music, in the mood of a simple French tune, says more than words could.

In My Fair Lady, Eliza Doolittle finally learns to say correctly "the rain in Spain stays mainly in the plain"; her elation soars to exhilaration in a tango. Singing of Spain, it had to be Spanish music.

The answer to all who still bemoan the demise of the old "girlie" musical with the baggy-pants comedian is that the literate, modern musical, with all its thousands of nuances, its refinement and "highbrow" artistry, has topped all box-office records. Could it be that our audiences are better than those who still try to play down to them?

For a select group of great musical show albums available as Alternates, please turn the page

# BROADWAY'S BEST in HIFI

Here are seven all-time-favorite hit Broadway musicals, some performed by the original Broadway casts, some recorded directly from post-Broadway film soundtracks, others brilliantly recreated with glittering casts.

Each or all of them will convert your pet armchair into an economical front-row-center seat for hearing the best of Broadway as you like to hear it and —possible only with recordings—when you want to hear it!

RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN'S

## South, Pacific

The original sound-track recording from the Rodgers-Hammerstein film hit. This previous Club Selection contains the Overture and 15 perennial song favorites (two new songs added for the film)—recorded for the first time in true hi fi.

LOC 1032 \$4.98



## REDHEAD

Original Broadway cast recording of the season's biggest and best musical hit, winner of six Tony awards. Stars Tony winners Gwen Verdon and Richard Kiley. Includes Just for Once, 'Erbie Fitch's Twitch, Pick-Pocket Tango, The Uncle Sam Rag, etc.

LOC 1048 \$4.98

GWEN VERDON RICHARD KILEY

## THE CHOCOLATE SOLDIER

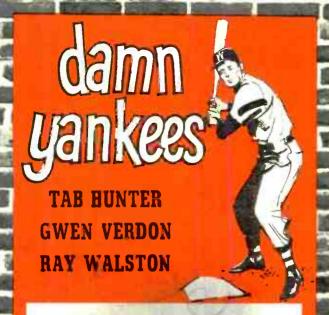
## STEVENS ROBERT MERRILL

RISË

First complete recorded version of this sparkling operetta, with an all-star cast headed by Risë Stevens, Robert Merrill. Handsomely packaged, affectionately produced, brilliantly sung. Lehman Engel is the conductor.

TWO-RECORD ALBUM LOP 6005 \$9.98

(Counts as two purchases)



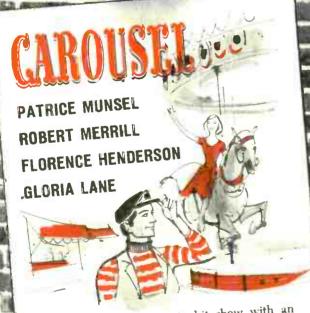
Original soundtrack recording from the new film version of the big Adler-Ross hit starring Gwen Verdon, Tab Hunter and Ray Walston. Includes Whatever Lola Wante, Heart, Shoeless Jo from Hanniba, Mo., Who's Got the Pain?, An Empty Chair (new), etc.

LOC 1047 \$4.98



Previous Club Selection. Gogi Grant, Howard Keel, Anne Jeffreys star in a new hi fi production. Kern-Hammerstein classics include Bill, Make Believe, Ol' Man River, Why Do I Love You?, Can't Help Lovin' Dat Man, Nobody Else But Me, etc.

LOP 1505 \$4.98



The Rodgers-Hammerstein hit show with an all-star cast — Patrice Munsel, Robert Merrill, Florence Henderson, Gloria Lane, others—at the popular price. Lyrical score includes Catousel Waitz, It I Loved You, Soliloquy, You'll Never Walk Alone, more.

LPM 1048 \$3.98

## Rose-Marie

Previous Club Selection—new, gloriously hi fi version of Friml-Hammerstein classic stars Julie Andrews and Giorgio Tozzi plus large cast, soloists and chorus. Lehman Engel conducts. Rose-Marie, Indian Love Call, Song of the Mounties, Why Shouldn't We?, etc.



## Classical Corner

RCA VICTOR RED SEAL RECORDS suggested as Alternates in place of—or in addition to—the next Club Selection



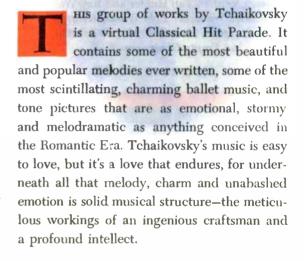


THE NUTCRACKER (Excerpts). Boston Pops Orchestra; Arthur Fiedler, conductor. The ballet fovorite for all ages! The excerpts include Overture; Marche; Woltz of the Snow Flakes; Divertissement: Chocolote (Sponish Dance), Coffee (Arab Donce), Teo (Chinese Dance), Trépak, Pennywhistles; Waltz of the Flowers; Dance of the Sugar Plum Foiry; etc. LM 2052....\$4.98



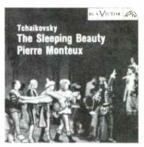








SYMPHONY NO. 6 IN B MINOR (Pathétique). Chicago Symphony Orchestra; Fritz Reiner, conductor. The composer's brooding Russian romanticism is most evident in this, his last symphony. A hit song, The Story of a Starry Night, was borrowed from the first movement. "The Boston Symphony Orchestra never sounded better"—Edward Tatnall Canby, Harper's. LM 2216...\$4.98



THE SLEEPING BEAUTY (Excerpts).
London Symphony Orchestra;
Pierre Monteux, conductor. This
work is one of Tchaikovsky's most
delightful ballet scores, popularized in this country in recent
years by the British Sadler's
Wells Ballet Company. "Music
of unflagging beauty and charm.
. . . The dazzling orchestration
is Tchaikovsky at his best"—
Deems Taylor. LM 2177....\$4.98

## 

## PREVIOUS CLUB SELECTIONS, ALTERNATES AND EXTRAS AVAILABLE

Dividend credit given . See inside front cover

### VOCALS



CALYPSO. Harry Belafonte. The BIG ONE by the matchless folk singer. Includes Day O, Brown Skin Gal, I Do Adore Her, "Will His Love Be Like His Rum?", Come Back Liza, Jamaica Farewell, Star O, Dolly Dawn, The Jack-Ass Song, Man Smart (Woman Smarter). LPM 1248...\$3.98

HARRY BELAFONTE: LOVE
15 A GENTLE THING. Previous Club Selection. Soft, tender love songs and lulabies—includes Fifteen (theme of The World, the Flesh and the Devil), Delia's Gone, Green Grow the Lilacs, Times Are Gettin' Hard, I'm Goin' Away, etc. LPM 1927..........\$3,98



MARIO! Tenor Lanza's latest and greatest-gorgeously sung, superbly recorded (in Italy) versions of 12 emotion-rich Italian favorites. Funiculi' Funicula', Maria Mari', Santa Lucia luntana, Voce 'e notte, Passione, Dicitencello vuie, Canta pe' me, others. LM 2331...\$4.98



JEANETTE MacDONALD AND NELSON EDDY FAVORITES IN HI-FI. The operetta film stars re-create their biggest hits in hi fi, including indian Love Call; Rosalie; Rose-Marie Wanting You; Will You Remember?; Ah, Sweet Mystery of Life; Gianinna Mia; Stouthearted Men: etc. LPM 1738..\$3.98

FANCY MEETING YOU HERE. Bing Crosby, Rosemary Clooney, Billy May's Orchestra. Previous Club Selection. Updated standards, delightful special material, sassy arrangements, Bing's patented ad libs. Funfest includes On a Slow Boat to China, Hindustan, Isle of Capri, etc. LPM 1854...\$3.98



NEIL SEDAKA This teenage rock-and-roll star sings for real! Also he writes his own songs. Disc includes his hit versions of I Go Ape and The Diary, plus hits he wrote for others—Stupid Cupid, Another Sleepless Night, etc. Solid musical bockings for doncers. LPM 2035...........\$3.98

WHEN WE WERE YOUNG. The Voices of Walter Schumann. Previous Club Selection. Lush choral interpretations of 12 romantic waltzes, including Ramona, Girl of My Dreams, Always, Falling in Love with Love, Together, 111 See You Again, While We're Young, etc. LPM 1477..........\$3.98



GISELE. TV favorite Gisele MacKenzie sings a dozen ballads with Axel Stordahl's orchestro: Stranger in Paradise; Hey There; Half As Much; Too Young; Ebb Tide; Moonglow; Unchained Melody; Answer Me, My Love; Learnin' the Blues; The Song from Moulin Rouge. LPM 1790.....\$3.98

#### INSTRUMENTALS . MOOD

FOR LOVERS. Ray Hartley's romantic piano (plus orchestra) rhapsodizes 12 elegant love songs: They Can't Take That Away from Me, I Remember It Well (from Gigi), Secret Love, Autumn in Rome, Heart of Paris, A Certain Smile, Intermezzo, Friendly Persuasion. LPM 1870......\$3.98

PLAY, GYPSY, PLAY. Gypsy Sandor's Orchestra. Haunting Hungarian stylings of familiar minor-key melodies: Dark Eyes; When a Gypsy Makes His Violin Cry; Two Guitars; Autumn Leaves; Music, Maestra, Please; Boulevard of Broken Dreams; Gypsy Dance; more. LPM 1739.....\$3.98

POPS STOPPERS: BOSTOM
POPS ORCHESTRA. Arthur
Fiedler. Newest hi fi ver
sions of all-time biggest
Pops concert hits: Jalousie
(of coursel), In a Persian
Market, The Skaters Waltz,
Liebestraum, Ritual Fire
Dance, Stars and Stripes
Forever, España Rhapsody.
LM 2270......\$4.98

CHET ATKINS AT HOME.
Rhythmic, many - mooded virtuoso guitar recital in exquisite hi f. Sophisticated Lady, April in Portugal, Vilia, You're Just in Love, Jungle Drums, Ay-Ay-Ay, Nagasaki, Say "Si Si," Martha, Czardas, Yankee Doodle Dixie more. LPM 1544. \$3.98

WINTERHALTER GOES LATIN. Previous Club Selection. Hugo's hi fi instrumental Latin excursion via ideally listenable and danceable rumbas, ballads, sambas, tangos, etc. Includes Valencia, Granada, Delicado, The Peanut Vendor, Vaya con Dios, Come Closer to Me, etc. LPM 1677....\$3.98

REMINISCE WITH LARRY FERRARI. Gifted pop organist plays 12 hardy standards in hi fi. Jalousie, It Might As Well Be Spring, You'll Never Know, Moonlight Cocktail, When You Wish Upon a Star, Over the Rainbow, Red Sails in the Sunset, Sweet Leilani, etc. LPM 1850......\$3.98

CUDDLE UP A LITTLE CLOSER.
Reg Owen's Orchestra —
cascading strings, fluid
woodwinds, burnished

brass in British full-range hi fi — plays music for a bachelor apartment. Let's Put Out the Lights; If I Could Be with You; Pretty Baby; Oh, You Beautiful Doll; etc. LPM 1914..\$3.98

SOFT AND SWEET. The Three Suns plus feathersoft strings flow gently through Moonlight in Vermont, Skylark, Autumn Leaves, There Is No Greater Love, The Touch of Your Lips, Stars Fell on Alabama, A Sinner Kissed an Angel, The River Seine, more. LPM 1041......\$3.98

## COUNTRY . SACRED



JOHNNIE AND JACK. The "singin', pickin', grinnin'" Tennessee Mountain Boys close-harmonize 12 barefoot ballads. When My Blue Moon Turns to Gold Again, You Are My Sunshine, I Wonder Why You Said Goodbye (with Ruby Wells), Wedding Bells, etc. LPM 1587..\$3.98



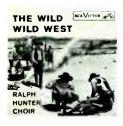






HAVEGUITAR, WILLTRAVEL: EDDY ARNOLD. Country, folk and pop standards stir memories of Indiana, Carolina in the Morning, Oklahoma Hills, Kentucky Babe, Beautiful Ohio. Also Stars Fell on Alabama, Georgia on My Mind, more — in great country style. LPM 1928......\$3.98

#### NOVELTIES . BAND . HI-FI SPECIALTIES





THEY LAUGHED WHEN I SAT DOWN. Billy Rowland's rollicking "thumbtack" piano in wild, woolly honky-tonk-to-horo hi fi funfest of offbeat songs, moods, sonic effects. Canadian Capers; Five Foot Two, Eyes of Blue; Narcissus; Blue Moon; Am I Blue?; etc. LPM 1872 \$3.98







MAGOO IN HI-FI. The nearsighted cortoon character, played by Jim Bockus, in a series of hilarious antics designed to show off your hi fi set. This is truly unusual disc entertainment. Also included is Dennis Farnon's whimsical Mother Magoo Suite, also made for hi fi fans. LPM 1362..\$3.98

## COLLECTOR'S ITEMS . SWING . VINTAGE JAZZ

DUKE ELLINGTON: AT HIS VERY BEST. The original (1944) Black, Brown and Beige Suite plus 10 more in fat collection from the 1940-46 period. Creole Love Call, Jack the Bear, Do Nothin' Till You Hear from Me (Concerto for Cootie), Warm Valley, Harlem Air Shaft, Transblucency, Chloe, Ko-Ko, Across the Track Blues. LPM 1715...\$3,98

#### RECENT JAZZ

#### DANCE DISCS





37 FAVORITES FOR DANC-ING. Previous Club Selection slots Frankie Carle and rhythm in deliciously danceable medleys of alltime hit fax trots, waltzes, lindys, rumbas. Embraceable You, Tea for Two, It Had to Be You, Somebady Loves Me, My Heart Stood Still, etc. LPM 1868. \$3.98



LOVE IN THE AFTERNOON.
The Three Suns. Previous
Club Selection by nation's
No. 1 pop instrumental
group plus rhythm and special strings. Pulsant dance
and mood standards in
ultra hi fi include I'll Get By,
I'm in the Mood for Love,
Dream and Melanchaly
Baby. LPM 1669......\$3.98



compulsion to swing. Henri Rene's Orchestra. Swinging dance music for the hi fi era. Ear-perking effects combined with an irresistible beat throughout make this the dancing-listening surprise package of the year. Baubles, Bangles and Beads; Cry Me a River; more. LPM 1947.......\$3.98





SOMETHING OLD, NEW, BORROWED AND BLUE. New Glenn Miller band in hi fi, conducted by Ray McKinley. Previous Club Selection offers 15 songs, big variety. Includes Miller-styled Canadian Sunset and I'm Glad There Is You, also McKinley novelties—Red Silk Stockings, etc. LPM 1678..\$3.98



#### PIANO ROLL DISCOVERIES

(Continued from page 7)

player pianos are operated either by foot pedals or (in later refinements) an electric motor, both of which provide power to actuate the piano roll and a set of bellows. The Duo-Art pianos, in addition, make provisions to accommodate a series of holes along the side of the roll which govern subtle musical shadings and control the pedal, the dynamic scale and nuances of phrasing. Gershwin's performances for Duo-Art made full use of these advantages, thus giving us a completely accurate picture of Gershwin as a pianist—and he was an extraordinarily good one.

In transferring these piano-roll performances to hi fi and stereo discs, RCA Victor obtained one of the finest player pianos ever built, tuned it perfectly and set up, in proper relation to the piano, a group of supersensitive microphones. The quality of the sound as recorded thereby is just as good as that which might be obtained today by a live pianist performing in the same studio on any top-quality piano.

We should mention Gershwin's other performance here, of a delightful, lesser-known Jerome Kern gem, Whose Baby Are You? It seems that when he wasn't playing his own tunes he was playing Kern's. Included also are the immortal Waller playing his own jazz piece, Squeeze Me, and flashy Zez Confrey playing one of his most popular sparklers, Stumbling. I Ain't Givin' Nothin' Away is a typical blues-out-of-vaudeville styling by the father of New York jazz piano—and Fats Waller's idol—James P. Johnson. And then there is that other crisp novelty, Nola, played by its composer, the late Felix Arndt.

Several of the biggest hit songs of the first quarter of this century are on this disc, played in the style that was in vogue when each was at its peak. Two-piano teams were popular with player-piano pumpers, and the most active of the team players was Max Kortlander, heard here in Apple Blossom Time with Ted Baxter, and in Smiles with its composer, Lee S. Roberts. Nevin's Mighty Lak' a Rose is preserved in its pristine fragrance by Arndt.

Of the Alternates offered so far in the Collector's Corner, this album could be, historically speaking, the most important and interesting. Certainly it's the disc "conversation piece" of the year!

MY FAIR LADY

EVENING

GiGi

Paint Your Wagon

BRIGADOON

starring

ROBERT MERRILL JAN PEERCE JANE POWELL PHIL HARRIS

with the

**RCA Victor Symphony Orchestra** and Chorale under the direction of

JOHNNY GREEN



# Musical Spectacular WITH LERNER & LOEWE

he word spectacular was a noun even before it became one of the big clichés of television. Webster's defined it as "that which appeals to the eye as a spectacle; an unusual display, as of pomp or scenery; an action or sight of a sensational nature."

a "Musical Spectacular," and we believe that this application of the noun to an aural "spectacle" is an important step in the evolution of the word—as well as in the history of recorded entertainment. It could well be the most succinct, effective term to imply the ear appeal, the unusual, lavish material and skill that has gone into this one spectacular (adj.) disc album production.

AN EVENING WITH LERNER AND LOEWE actually



is a tableau or concert presentation of the musical scores from four big hit shows (stage and film), including the two biggest of recent years, all written by Alan Jay Lerner (lyrics) and Frederick Loewe (music). These men, whose career as a team began shortly after the death of the immortal Jerome Kern, seem to have dedicated themselves to promulgating the Kern tradition, turning out fresh, full, warm-hearted, singable and eminently memorable melodies.

This disc spectacular abounds with award winners. Gigi won nine Academy Awards (Oscars), the most ever received by one film. Musical director Johnny Green is a previous Oscar winner and several times an Oscar nominee. (He also is the composer of Body and Soul, I Cover the Waterfront and many other durable standard tunes.) Brigadoon and My Fair Lady both have won the New York Drama Critics Circle Award.

Paint Your Wagon, which tried valiantly but did not always succeed in blending several varied concepts of drama and dance, was nevertheless a handsomely tuneful hit on Broadway and on tour.

#### THE ARTISTS

The two leading male voices in the set belong to JAN PEERCE, tenor, and ROBERT MERRILL, baritone. Both are top attractions of the Metropolitan Opera but, being thoroughly American, both are perfectly at home in good American popular music. The feminine lead is the lovely film star JANE POWELL, whose warm, true soprano is one of the nicer sounds Hollywood has wafted into the world. Several of the comedy or "character" songs are handled by that genial old pro from the South (via the Jack Benny shows), PHIL HARRIS.

The sixty-man orchestra and the chorus, drafted from the upper echelons of Hollywood artisans, are conducted by the aforementioned JOHNNY GREEN, whose approach to this project was similar to the one he customarily follows in the sound-

(Continued on the back cover)

## An Evening with

## **LERNER & LOEWE**

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### MY FAIR LADY

| Overture Orchestra                              |
|---|
| Wouldn't It Be Loverly?Powell & Quartet         |
| With a Little Bit of Luck Harris, Duo & Chorale |
| On the Street Where You LivePeerce              |
| The Rain in SpainPowell, Merrill & Peerce       |
| Get Me to the Church on Time Harris & Chorale   |
| Show Me Powell                                  |
| I've Grown Accustomed to Her Face               |
| Finale: I Could Have Danced All NightThe Cast   |

## GIGI

| Prelude Orchestra                         |
|---|
| Thank Heaven for Little Girls             |
| I Remember It Well                        |
| The Parisians Powell                      |
| A Toujours Merrill                        |
| I'm Glad I'm Not Young Any More           |
| Say a Prayer for Me TonightPowell         |
| The Night They Invented Champagne Chorale |
| Gigi                                      |

### PAINT YOUR WAGON

| Prelude Orchestra                          |
|--|
| Another Autumn Peerce                      |
| They Call the Wind Maria Merrill & Chorale |
| I Talk to the Trees                        |
| Wand'rin' Star                             |
| How Can I Wait?Powell                      |
| Finale: There's a Coach Comin' In;         |
| I'm on My Way Merrill & Charale            |

### BRIGADOON

| Overture Orchestra                             |
|--|
| Come to Me, Bend to MePeerce                   |
| Down on MacConnachy SquareChorale              |
| There But for You Go 1                         |
| The Heather on the HillPowell & Merrill        |
| I'll Go Home with Bonnie Jean Peerce & Chorale |
| Almost Like Being in Love Powell & Merrill     |

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