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**ERCONA CORPORATION**

Electronic Division

Dept. 46, 16 West 46th Street, New York 36, New York

**Malagueña: Music of Cuba.” Percy Faith and His Orchestra. Columbia CCB 43, 20 min., $7.95.**

Another Latin-American program in the same vein as Faith’s earlier “Viva!” and like that one too elaborately orchestrated. This time, however, there is much less distortion in the impressively big sound, highly reverberant stereosonic.

**“Mere Music from ‘Peter Gunn,’ TV sound track, Henry Mancini, cond. RCA Victor BP 654, 20 min., $8.95.**

Hearing this as it should be heard via a big home-stereo-system operating at high level, I no longer wonder why Mancini’s scores have been so successful, while I more than ever pity the poor characters who know them only as slummed down to fit relatively tiny TV speakers. In the present superb stereo recording, such pieces as Walking the Bass, Timmy’s Odd Ball, and especially My Manne Shellby are genuinely electrifying.

**“More Sing Along with Mitch and the Gang.” Columbia CCB 37, 20 min., $7.95.**

At this late date what more is there to say about Mitch Miller’s genial songs after — except that his gang is in better voice than ever and so powerfully recorded that even the timidest singer-along can’t resist adding his contributions to My Buddy, The Whiffenpoof Song, Sweet Adeline, and other old-timers favorites.


Like John F. Indoox, who reviewed the disc version of this London “Lady,” I too shall, of course, still cling to the original (New York production) LP, especially for Rex Harrison’s and Julie Andrews’ fresher and less-mannered solos and duos. But unlike J. F. I., I think that in its orchestral playing, choral singing, and above all Stanley Holloway’s rollicking contributions, the new version is as markedly improved in performance as it is sonically by the present (on tape at least) transparent and unadulterated stereosonic.

**“Oriental.” The Markko Polo Adventurers. RCA Victor EPS 243, 36 min., $11.95.**

O. B. Brummeas’s July 1959 review of the disc versions of conductor-arranger Gerald Freed’s “Impressions in Music and Sound” stressed its satirical effectiveness. So it is perhaps enough now to acclaim the wide variety of instruments (including some twenty-five percussion types) and timbres exploited so ingeniously here, and to suggest that even the stereo disc at its best could hardly match the ultrabrilliance and ultraradiance of the tape. The dizzy Girl Friend of a Whirling Dervish, haunting Mountain High, Valley Low, spooky Night of the Tiger, and

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