

ANYTHING GOES, George Wright, organist. Available by mail order only. \$20.00 postpaid from Banda Records, P.O. Box 392, Oxnard, California 93032

George Wright has always been an innovator. A man who does things before they are fashionable, George Wright recorded the theatre pipe organ with big bands in the '40s, made tape overlay recordings in the '50s (Remember "Dancing Tambourine"?), and had the audacity to record an entire album featuring pipe organ percussions exclusively! Therefore, it should come as no surprise to learn that George Wright's latest compact disc of Cole Porter tunes, ANYTHING GOES, incorporates MIDI keyboard instruments of the '80s. Synthesizers, samplers, drum machines — they are all there to add a new dimension to George Wright's residence pipe organ, the Hollywood Philharmonic Organ. With the exception of one annoying electronic cymbal, the digital voices are welcome and, in Mr. Wright's capable hands, blend beautifully with the pipe organ chorus.

The electronic gadgetry, digital recording, even the Hollywood Philharmonic Organ is only a flume for George Wright's music. It is the music which impresses. ANYTHING GOES is the work of a deeply involved musician. A musician who is at peace with himself. It is as if Banda's microphones were flies on the window sill casually listening to George Wright play just for himself and his beloved pet poodle, Sam.

The music is relaxed but yet exhibits the maturity required in successfully performing Cole Porter's work. "I Concentrate On You" and especially, "In The Still Of The Night" display Mr. Wright's unrivaled mastery of phrasing. Even though George Wright had previously recorded "Love For Sale," this rendition evokes feelings of one who has done it all and who has seen it all whereas the earlier version suggests impetuousness.

Synthesizers are known for their ability to create other worldly sounds and in "Don't Fence Me In" we hear some humorous, naughty barnyard punctuations. Other selections on this 70-plus-minute compact disc include medleys from *Anything Goes* and *Kiss Me, Kate.* Additionally we hear "Easy To Love," "I've Got You Under My Skin," "Friendship," "I Love Paris," "My Heart Belongs To Daddy," and "An Old Fashioned Garden."

ANYTHING GOES is highly recommended. This writer believes it is George Wright's finest recording effort to date. First came the music . . . then George Wright. The two have ever since been inseparable. Dennis Hedberg



Manufacturers, distributors or individuals sponsoring or merchandising organ recordings are encouraged to send review copies to the Record Reviewer, THEATRE ORGAN, 4633 S.E. Brookside Drive, #58, Milwaukie, Oregon 97222. Be sure to include purchasing information (postpaid price, ordering address) and a photo of the artist which need not be returned.

OFFICIAL NOTICE

TO: Members of the American Theatre Organ Society

> FROM: David M. Barnett National Secretary

SUBJECT: Notice of Annual Meeting DATE: March 1, 1987

The Annual Meeting of the members of the American Theatre Organ Society will be held on Sunday, July 3, 1988, at the First United Methodist Church, 1838 S.W. Jefferson Street, Portland, Oregon, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

AMERICAN THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY

David M. Barnett National Secretary

