YOUNG MAN AND A MAID

LOVE SONGS OF MANY LANDS

SUNG BY
 THEODORE BIKEL
 AND
 CYNTHIA GOODING
A YOUNG MAN AND A MAID
LOVE SONGS OF MANY LANDS
SUNG BY
CYNTHIA GOODING AND THEODORE BIKEK

CYNTHIA GOODING possesses the two priceless attributes of any singer of folk songs: a good voice and a perceptive ear. But of course she has much more than that; namely, an ever-recurring curiosity, enthusiasm, and understanding about and for folk music. She was born in Minnesota but she sings in many languages. Her extensive musical education has taught her the importance of having a solid theoretical grounding and the fact that folk music cannot be "improved" but must be rendered exactly as tradition requires. Other ELEKTRA albums featuring Miss Gooding include Turkish, Spanish and Mexican Folk Songs (EKL-121); Faithful Lovers and Other Phenomena (EKL-107); and Queen of Hearts—Early English Folk Songs (EKL-131).

THEODORE BIKEK is a unique personality in the field of entertainment. He is primarily a stage, screen, and television actor whose diverse outside interests include playing the guitar and singing folk songs in twenty languages—seven of which he speaks fluently.

Mr. Bikel was cast as Mary Martin's leading man in the Rodgers and Hammerstein musical, The Sound of Music, about the Trapp Family Singers. He received an Academy Award nomination as Best Supporting Actor for his portrayal of the Southern sheriff in The Defiant Ones, and has become a frequent visitor on the Jack Paar show.

Born in Vienna in 1924, Mr. Bikel emigrated to Israel (then Palestine) with his parents in 1938. Five years later he joined the famed Habima Theatre and in 1944 was a co-founder of the Tel-Aviv Chamber Theatre. In 1946 he moved to London and attended the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art. After extensive theatre work in England, he played the part of the Dutch doctor in the memorable English film The Little Kidnappers, and in 1954 was brought to this country to appear in the Broadway play, Tonight in Samarkand. Since his first Broadway appearance,

Mr. Bikel has been extremely busy in theatre (The Lark, The Rope Dancers); in television (The Bridge of San Luis Rey, Angry Harvest, The Hunted); and some twenty movies, among them The African Queen, The Pride and the Passion, The Enemy Below, Fraulein, and I Want to Live.

His exclusive Elektra recordings include Brave Bikel (EKL-175), an on-the-spot recording of his Town Hall concert, Jewish Folk Songs and More Jewish Folk Songs (EKL-161 and EKL-165); Songs of a Russian Gypsy (EKL-150); Folksongs of Israel (EKL-132); An Actor's Holiday (EKL-105); and Folk Songs from Just About Everywhere (EKL-161), with Geula Gill of the Oranim Zabar Israeli Troupe.

The subject of love is one of the ever-recurring themes of folk song, and the one which gives us the most delight. In speaking of this type of music, I always think of a well-known folk singer who entered a recording session and when asked if she planned to sing love songs answered, in a surprised voice, "What else is there?"

The literature of love is vast, whether it be poetry or fiction or music. It invades every aspect of our life, and is so demanding that if we are without it, we experience a vacancy and yearning as passionate as love itself. It can conjure up all the sadness and all the happiness anyone has ever known.

In this album we are treated to all kinds of love: The poignant, sun-nourished love of Where Does It Lead; love expressed whimsically and with gusto as in Coplas; and the glowing warmth of Greensleeves. The love songs of each country have their own distinct flavor, mood, and emphasis.

The aura of excitement and vitality generated by Miss Gooding and Mr. Bikel is most appropriate for A Young Man and a Maid.

—NINA MERRICK

SIDE ONE
1. Where Does It Lead — Cynthia and Theo
2. A Meidl In Di Yeren (Yiddish) — Theo
3. Sur La Route (French) — Cynthia and Theo
4. Laredo (Mexican) — Cynthia and Theo
5. Greensleeves — Cynthia
6. Ro'e Vero'a (Israeli) — Cynthia and Theo
7. Après De Ma Blonde (French) — Cynthia
8. Mi Jacalito (Mexican) — Cynthia and Theo

SIDE TWO
1. As I Roved Out — Cynthia and Theo
2. Coplas (Mexican) — Cynthia and Theo
3. Katherine Jaffrey — Cynthia
4. Hej Pada Pada (Slavic) — Theo
5. Well Met, Pretty Maid — Cynthia and Theo
6. La Ballade Du Chercheur d'Or (French) — Theo
7. Western Wind — Cynthia
8. Proschay (Russian) — Cynthia and Theo