

Tony Bennett
sings

IMPROV

7113 STEREO



Rodgers

Hart
songs

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Tony Bennett sings

10 Rodgers & Hart songs

This album is a marriage of music, taste and performance. Tony Bennett, one of America's finest entertainers, loves, admires, respects and cherishes the constantly surprising refrains in the brilliant matching of Rodgers and Hart. They are, without argument, the definitive music comedy collaborators of the truly Golden Age of the Broadway Theatre. You recognize love and respect in every decibel, in the timbre of Tony Bennett's tones, his perfect interpretations. Ruby Braff's flawless coronet, George Barnes' matchless guitar and the rest of the group form a sparkling setting for Tony's gem-like performance.

A Hart-felt lyric often opens into brilliantly iconoclastic reverse. Not the obvious "I Love You" would satisfy Larry Hart: the poignant, touching breezily witty, **This Can't Be Love**, celebrates romance, but doubts it, "because I feel English—no sobs, no sorrows, no sighs". **The Lady Is a Tramp** celebrates not a tramp, but a free young natural lady, whose dismissal of spurious, pretentious chic, announces it is not for her. The finest of natural ordinariness is lifted to glamor in Larry's melodically reverse English. Dick Rodgers' inimitable genius, shines through the melodious, silken, linear delights of each song. **Manhattan**, from their first real hit, "Garrick Galaxies", celebrates the glamorous borough of New York in story and slang. Unlike any love song before, it is a valentine to Manhattan, not just any young girl. **Spring Is Here** also reverses the obvious—brilliantly. Spring indeed is here, but "Why Doesn't My Heart Go Dancing?", ending with a lovely rueful "Spring is Here—I Hear". Larry went gently headlong into romance, proving wit wasn't all, that his cleverness had depth. **Lover** is exciting, erotic, evocative. **Have You Met Miss Jones?** is the different Hart-line lyric in which an introduction beautifully frames a lad in love's deepest idolatry. **Isn't It Romantic?**, was—is—forever! **Wait 'Til You See Her** is a promissory musical note, the promise fulfilled. **I Could Write a Book** is a library of a lesson in lyrical construction, starting with preface, plot, and bookends, all of which made two lovers of friends.

The joining of Dick Rodgers' rich, charming, brilliant and triumphant music with Larry Hart's wit and wonderment, and Tony Bennett's compelling talents,

makes this album a classic—warm and loving, exciting and sweet. This can be love; spring is here; yes, we've met Miss Jones and she is ours; indeed it is romantic; we don't have to wait to see her, we hear her.

I could write a book about Rodgers, Hart and Bennett; but this funny, fond Valentine will have to do. They happen only once in a **Blue Moon**.

—Jack O'Brian

Jack O'Brian's columns and radio shows reach millions daily. He has covered show business, particularly music, for 35 years. Messrs. Rodgers, Hart and Bennett have all been personal friends.

The Ruby Braff/George Barnes Quartet
Ruby Braff/Cornet
George Barnes/Guitar
Wayne Wright/Guitar
John Giuffrida/Bass

Art Director/Rudolph de Harak

Photo Courtesy of Harrah's, Reno

Engineering/Frank Laico

Improv Records
Division of TOBILL Entertainment Corp.
107 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14202

Side 1

- 1 **This Can't Be Love** (1:37)
Publisher: Chappell & Co., Inc.
ASCAP
- 2 **Blue Moon** (2:10)
Publisher: Robbins Music Corp.
ASCAP
- 3 **The Lady is a Tramp** (2:26)
Publisher: Chappell & Co., Inc.
ASCAP
- 4 **Lover** (3:46)
Publisher: Famous Music Corp.
ASCAP
- 5 **Manhattan** (3:14)
Publisher: E. B. Marks Music Corp.
BMI

Side 2

- 6 **Spring Is Here** (2:40)
Publisher: Warner Bros. Music, Inc.
ASCAP
- 7 **Have You Met Miss Jones?** (3:18)
Publisher: Chappell & Co., Inc.
ASCAP
- 8 **Isn't It Romantic?** (3:20)
Publisher: Famous Music Corp.
ASCAP
- 9 **Wait 'Til You See Her** (1:24)
Publisher: Chappell & Co., Inc.
ASCAP
- 10 **I Could Write a Book** (3:09)
Publisher: Chappell & Co., Inc.
ASCAP

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**TONY BENNETT
SINGS 10
RODGERS & HART
SONGS**

Side 1

THE RUBY BRAFF
GEORGE BARNES
QUARTET

33-1/3 RPM
NO. 7113
IMP-21676-A-RE

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(1:37)
2. **Blue Moon**
(2:10)
3. **The Lady Is a Tramp**
(2:26)
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