

VOICE OF THE SEA



cover photos: Ted Mierolla

many sounds relating to the sea and those who travel it . . . Queen Mary whistle, pebbly surf, sandy surf, the U.S.S. Columbus, harbor sounds

AN ANCIENT emperor once commanded his legions to attack the sea. This they did at spear point, piercing the waves in the attempt to settle once and for all the supremacy of Emperor vs. the Sea.

Many people have attempted to capture the seas, the poet with words, the mariner with legend, the scientist with his instruments.

In their own way they have sometimes been rewarded, but they have also failed, for as we reach out in words, sound or song, the mystical sea recedes and becomes inscrutable.

Strangely, by themselves the sounds of the sea are abstract, unrelated; but when swells break against our rocks and beaches their nature is revealed. Impinging upon the shores, ships and lives of people who live around it, the abstract sea takes on its own sound and meaning for each of us.

IN 1952 we foolishly let it be known that a record by this title would soon be issued. In books, legend and song the sea had spoken through the mouths of others, but here at last in the recording medium she could indeed speak for herself.

As we exposed our microphones down mile after mile of coast and open sea, we too were enveloped. The record had to wait while we learned what any mariner could have told us.

From endless miles of tape recorded in 10,000 miles of watery coastline emerges a record. It would be presumptuous to say that *here* is a definitive sound portrait; only an infinite *series* of records could do that.

The most we hope to have achieved is the unveiling of a fragment. The sea is elusive in its spirit, rhythm, texture, — for the sea *is* a woman.

Voice of The Sea

This is a DUPLEX RECORDING

This record can be played on either regular LP or binaural machines. For standard LP listening, play only the outside band in the ordinary way. By itself, this band is an ideal point-source single-microphone pick-up. For binaural listening, a two-headed arm or Cook Binaural Clip Conversion is necessary in order to play both bands of grooves simultaneously.

With co-operation of:

- 1—Cunard Line
- 2—U.S. Navy (cruiser Columbus)
- 3—U.S. Coast Guard Station, Quoddy Head,
— at the mouth of the Bay of Fundy, place
of high tides and eternal fog.
— Many passing friends and strangers

Source material from:

Gloucester, Mass.
Mazatlan, Mexico (Pacific)
Fire Island, N. Y.
Bay of Fundy
Mt. Desert I., Maine
Jersey Coast

SHIPS: (Side A) HARBOR and at SEA

Includes:
Queen Mary Whistle¹
Tug Boats
Ferry Boats
Fishing Boats
Fog Horn³

USS Columbus²:
Departure — Putting out to
Sea —
Whistle
Wheel House
Engine Room — Blowers
Ships Bell
Dropping Anchor
Boatswain's Whistle
General Alarm

SURF TEXTURES: (Side B)

Foamy (sand beach)
Pebbly beach
Rocky cliffs
Pounding storm
Quiet lapping
... with gulls and bell buoy



The sun sets over the Pacific at Mazatlan in Mexico.