

village bands back in the old country. The village band sound was authentic enough RCA Victor signed the group to record a second album, "Sour Kraut In Hi Fi" (LPM-1453)

The name of the group was taken from an obscure brand of whiskey and adopted by the group's leader, Richard B. Gump, who took on the persona of Herr Doktor Fritz Guckenheimer, Kapellmeister. All of the other band members adopted names that were some variant of Schmidt. Gump was a San Francisco art dealer and owner of Gump's store in downtown San Francisco, which was also the recording location of their best known record album for RCA Victor Records "Music For Non-Thinkers" (LSP/LPM 1721), which was recorded on Sunday, December 29, 1957, in stereo. It was released in 1958. It was re-released on an unknown date, and kept the original stereo catalog number, but adopted a new per-side catalog number as well, J2PY-2451/J2PY-2452



Bob And Ray Throw A Stereo Spectacular



Guckenheimer Sour Kraut Band Music For Non-Thinkers



BOB *and* **RAY** **A STEREO** **SPECTACULAR**

Bob and Ray Visit Dr. Ahkbar at the Castle

Riders in the Sky

The Melachrino Orchestra

(from UNDER WESTERN SKIES, CPS-124)

Minuet on the Rocks

Skitch Henderson and His Orchettes

(from POP GOES THE CONCERT, BPS-154)

Bob and Ray in the Round Room

Buck Dance

Dick Schory's New Percussion Ensemble

(from MUSIC FOR BANG, BAA-ROOM AND HARP, CPS-203)

The First Noël Radio City Music Hall Organ

(from CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS AT RADIO CITY MUSIC

HALL, DPS-176)

Bob and Ray: The Thing

New-Fangled Tango

Lena Horne (from LENA HORNE AT THE WALDORF-

ASTORIA, CPS-71)

Song of the Volga Boatman

Sauter-Finegan Orchestra (from MEMORIES OF GOODMAN

AND MILLER, CPS-163)

Bob and Ray: The End

THE DAYS WHEN SVELTE BLACK-CLAD WOMEN and elegant men met at a cocktail party to exchange notes on the poetry of T. S. Eliot or deprecate the passing of the Third Avenue El seem to be over. For now when the gentleman sidles up to the female sophisticate, his opening gambit will like as not be an inquiry into the condition of her pre-amp.

This change in conversational material is not limited to chatter over the canapés. Among the blue-jeaned youngsters, hi-fi publications have superseded *Popular Mechanics* and the *Girl Scout Handbook* and we hear they are thinking of revising *McGuffey's Reader* so that the very youngest set will not be ill-prepared to meet the challenge of stereo living.

A new language of words has arisen for the conversationalist and a new language of sounds for the listener. These new sounds are on this tape.

Thanks to Dr. Ahkbar (Bob and Ray's non-existent research scientist), the stereo medium is subjected to mad delvings and probings far beyond the wildest dreams of the early copywriters. Stereo experiments never before attempted are brilliantly executed by the crazed genius in his tower. Never before attempted . . . and let's hope, never again.

And if you're the kind that resists all this technical stuff, there's always Lena Horne in three dimensions!

Here are six top performances by top RCA Victor artists at their stereophonic best. All selections are complete and unexpurgated.

The Guckenheimer Sour Kraut Band was a humorous musical group of amateur musicians living in the San Francisco, California, area who played a repertoire of polkas and light classical music while adopting a persona of mild confusion and wearing self-created uniforms once described as rejects from the Franco-Prussian War. The group originally formed one Christmas season in 1949 to play carols in Sausalito, California, and someone brought a book of polka music, possibly one of the "Hungry Five" books by Harry L. Alford whose music became a basic part of the Guckenheimer repertoire. The group became increasingly popular in northern California, often invited to play at wine festivals and openings and in later years for such august occasions as opening night of the San Francisco Symphony.

Although all were business professionals, the group joined Local 6 of the American Federation of Musicians and became "professional musicians" when they were invited by San Francisco Records to make its first record album, "Oom-Pah-Pah In Hi-Fi"—described on its front cover as "The sourest German village band music ever!" Although the group played for laughs, all its members were quite adequate musicians, some of them very good. The occasional native German-born listener would often remark on the Guckenheimers' similarity to actual

Bob And Ray

Throw A Stereo Spectacular

- 1 Bob And Ray Visit Dr. Ahkbar At The Castle
- 2 George Melanchrino Riders In The Sky
- 3 Skitch Henderson Minuet On The Rocks
- 4 Bob And Ray In The Round Room
- 5 Dick Schory's New Percussion Ensemble Buck Dance
- 6 The First Noel
- 7 Bob And Ray The Thing
- 8 Lena Horne New-Fangled Tango
- 9 Sauter-Finegan Orchestra Song Of The Volga Boatman
- 10 Bob And Ray The End

Bob And Ray Released by RCA 1958

Transferred from an RCA 2-track tape CPS199

Produced by Bob Bollard - Engineered by Ray Hall

Guckenheimer Sour Kraut Band - Recorded December 29, 1957, by RCA 1958

Transferred from a 15ips 2-track tape

Guckenheimer Sour Kraut Band

Music For Non-Thinkers

- 11 Second Hungarian Rhapsody
- 12 Grad Aus Dem Wirthaus
- 13 Katarina Polka
- 14 Jägermarsch
- 15 Raymond Overture
- 16 Trinklieder
- 17 Der Kuss (Il Bacio)
- 18 Mädél Wasch Dich
- 19 Rheinwein Polka