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Mosaic Select: Johnny Richards (MS 017)

Text from mosaicrecords.com announcing this set:

"Johnny Richards, in essence, is a writer who likes to challenge his men and himself through a wide range of sounds and colors, and in his sidemen here, he has the musicians who can fulfill his designs."
Nat Hentoff, Experiments in Sound original liner notes

Johnny Richards is best known as for his composing and arranging for Stan Kenton (most notably Cuban Fire) and for co-writing "Young At Heart." But Richards' talent went well beyond Kentonia and songwriting. As Victor Young's assistant at Paramount Studios, he learned the art of film scoring; under Arnold Schoenberg's tutelage, he acquired a taste for dissonance; his knowledge of and penchant for Latin rhythms came, no doubt, from his Mexican Heritage. When the jazz bug bit him in the '40s, he amalgamated all these properties into a unique musical language of his own.

This set celebrates his forgotten work of the '50s and '60s, beginning with the programmatic piece "Annontation Of The Muses" for nonet in 1955, issued briefly on a Legende 10" LP. His 1957-58 orchestra is represented by Wide Range and Experiments In Sound (Capitol) and The Rites Of Diablo (Roulette). Keeping an 18-piece band together proved daunting and the ensemble folded in 1960. Richards regrouped in 1964, long enough to produce My Fair Lady - My Way and Aqui Se Habla Espanol, both for Roulette.

These six outstanding albums, all on CD for the first time, capture every aspect of Richards' art. Soloists include Gene Quill, Clifford Jordan, Seldon Powell, Burt Collins, Ray Copeland, Marvin Stamm, Jimmy Cleveland, Bill Watrous and Hank Jones.

Track Listing & Discography

DISC ONE

1. Annotation Of The Muses (part one) (A)	8:49	(Johnny Richards)
2. Annotation Of The Muses (part two) (A)	7:07	(Johnny Richards)
3. Annotation Of The Muses (part three) (A)	6:20	(Johnny Richards)
4. Nipigon (B)	4:28	(Johnny Richards)
5. So Beats My Heart For You (B)	1:51	(Ballard-Henderson-Waring)
6. Walkin' (B)	2:55	(Richard Carpenter)
7. Nina Never Knew (B)	3:02	(M. Drake-L. Alter)
8. The Ballad Of Tappan Zee (B)	5:03	(Johnny Richards)
9. Cimarron (B)	6:05	(Johnny Richards)
10. Stockholm Sweetnin' (B)	2:43	(Quincy Jones)
11. Close Your Eyes (B)	2:05	(Bernice Petkere)
12. The Nearness Of You (B)	3:00	(H. Carmichael-N. Washington)
13. Young At Heart (B)	2:24	(C. Leigh-J. Richards)
14. Walkin' (binaural take) (B)	2:56	(Richard Carpenter)
15. Cimarron (binaural take) (B)	5:31	(Johnny Richards)
16. Lake Tahoe (C)	4:09	(Johnny Richards)
17. Tempest On The Charles (C)	5:36	(Johnny Richards)

DISC TWO:

1. Omo Ado (D1)	4:20	(Johnny Richards)
2. What Is There To Say (D1)	2:18	(V. Duke-E.Y. Harburg)
3. Estoy Cansado (D1)	3:16	(Johnny Richards)
4. Theme From The Concerto To End All Concertos (D2)	4:32	(Stan Kenton)
5. How Are Things In Glocca Morra (D1)	2:12	(B. Lane-E.Y. Harburg)
6. Terpsichore (D1)	4:37	(Johnny Richards)
7. Je Vous Adore (D1)	3:12	(V. Young-S. Coslow)
8. Neolore (D2)	3:05	(Wade Legge)
9. This Time (D2)	3:17	(George David Weiss)
10. No Moon At All (D2)	2:59	(R. Evans-D. Mann)
11. Omo Ado (E1)	6:05	(Johnny Richards)
12. Kele Kele (E1)	4:18	(Johnny Richards)
13. La Pecadora (E2)	7:41	(Johnny Richards)
14. Ochun (E1)	4:29	(Johnny Richards)
15. Oluo Anu (E1)	6:55	(Johnny Richards)
16. Ofo (E2)	5:07	(Johnny Richards)

DISC THREE

1. Get Me To The Church On Time (F)	3:55	(A. J. Lerner-F. Loewe)
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2. On The Street Where You Live (F)	3:53	(A. J. Lerner-F. Loewe)
3. I Could Have Danced All Night (F)	3:06	(A. J. Lerner-F. Loewe)
4. Wouldn't It Be Lovely (F)	3:44	(A. J. Lerner-F. Loewe)
5. Show Me (F)	3:46	(A. J. Lerner-F. Loewe)
6. The Rain In Spain (F)	4:06	(A. J. Lerner-F. Loewe)
7. I've Grown Accustomed To Her Face (F)	3:13	(A. J. Lerner-F. Loewe)
8. With A Little Bit Of Luck (F)	3:20	(A. J. Lerner-F. Loewe)
9. Viva Gordo (G)	2:36	(Johnny Richards)
10. Nada Mas (G)	3:29	(Johnny Richards)
11. El Sombrero De Metal (G)	4:11	(Johnny Richards)
12. Plata De Azul (G)	3:35	(Johnny Richards)
13. Manzanita (G)	4:26	(Johnny Richards)
14. Imprevu (G)	2:44	(L. Geraci-J. Richards)
15. Chapultepec (G)	4:02	(Johnny Richards)
16. Me Voy (G)	3:08	(Johnny Richards)
17. Pulque (G)	4:28	(J. Richards-B. Webb)

(A) Joe Wilder, trumpet; John Barrows, French horn; Vincent Abato, clarinet; Julius Baker, flute; Bob Bloom, oboe; Harold Goltzer, bassoon; Johnny Smith, guitar; Jack Lesberg, bass; Sol Gubin, drums, tympani.

Recorded in New York City on February 22, 1955.

Originally issued as ANNOTATIONS OF THE MUSES (Legende LP 1401).

(B) Burt Collins, Jerry Kail, Paul Cohen, Doug Mettome, trumpets; Jimmy Cleveland, Jim Dahl, Frank Rehak, trombones; Al Antonucci, French horn; Jay McAllister, tuba; Gene Quill, alto sax; Frank Socolow, tenor sax; Billy Slapin, baritone sax, piccolo; Shelly Gold, bass sax; Hank Jones, piano; Chet Amsterdam, bass; Maurice Marks, drums; Willie Rodriguez, tympani.

Recorded in New York City on June 27, July 8 & 11, 1957

Originally issued as WIDE RANGE (Capitol T-885). Binaural takes originally issued on WIDE RANGE (Capitol tape ZC-16).

(C) similar to above.

Recorded in New York City on July 30, 1957.

Previously unissued.

(D) Al Stewart, Johnny Bello, Burt Collins, Ray Copeland, trumpets; Jimmy Cleveland, Jim Dahl, Billy Byers, trombones; Julius Watkins (D1) or Paul Ingraham (D2), French horns; Jay McAllister, tuba; Gene Quill, alto sax; Frank Socolow, tenor sax; Billy Slapin, baritone sax, piccolo; Shelly Gold, bass sax; Bob Pancoast, piano; Chet Amsterdam, bass; Jimmy Campbell, drums; Joe Venuto, percussion.

Recorded in New York City on January 14-16 or April 28 & 29, 1958.

Originally issued as EXPERIMENTS IN SOUND (Capitol T-981).

(E1) Ernie Royal, Johnny Bello, Burt Collins, Ray Copeland, trumpets; Jimmy Cleveland, Jim Dahl, Frank Rehak, trombones; Al Antonucci, French horn; Jay McAllister, tuba; Gene Quill, alto sax; Seldon Powell, Frank Socolow, tenor saxes; Billy Slapin, baritone sax, piccolo; Shelly Gold, bass sax; Hank Jones, piano; Chet Amsterdam, bass; Jimmy Campbell, drums; Joe Venuto, tympani; Sol Gubin, maracas; Sabu Martinez, bongos; Umbaldo Nieto, timbales; Carlos Valdes, congas; Jose Mangual, tambauri; Alvin Goldberg, percussion; The Dave Lambert Singers, vocals.

Recorded at Webster Hall, New York City on March 25 & 28, 1958.

Originally issued on THE RITES OF DIABLO (Roulette SR-52008).

(E2) Al Stewart, Charlie Shavers, Burt Collins, Ray Copeland, trumpets; Jimmy Cleveland, Jim Dahl, Frank Rehak, trombones; Julius Watkins, French horn; Jay McAllister, tuba; Gene Quill, alto sax; Seldon Powell, Frank Socolow, tenor saxes; Billy Slapin, baritone sax, piccolo; Shelly Gold, bass sax; Hank Jones, piano; Chet Amsterdam, bass; Jimmy Campbell, drums; Joe Venuto, tympani; Sol Gubin, maracas; PeteTerrace, bongos; Umbaldo Nieto, timbales; Carlos Valdes, congas; Raymond Rodriguez, tambauri; Al Epstein, percussion.

Recorded at Webster Hall, New York City on April 17, 1958.

Originally issued on THE RITES OF DIABLO (Roulette SR-52008).

(F) Bob McCoy, Jerry Kail, Ray Copeland, trumpets; Burt Collins, trumpet, flugelhorn; Jiggs Whigham, Bill Watrous, Tom McIntosh, trombones; Ray Starling, mellophonium; Jay McAllister, tuba; Jerry Dodgion, alto sax; Frank Perowsky, tenor sax; Joel Kaye, baritone sax, piccolo; Shelly Russell, bass sax; Johnny Knapp, piano; Chet Amsterdam, bass; Ronnie Bedford, drums; Warren Smith, percussion.

Recorded at Capitol Studios, New York City on September 9 & 17, 1964

Produced by Hugo & Luigi.

Recording engineer: Bob Arnold.

Originally issued as MY FAIR LADY - MY WAY (Roulette SR 52114).

(G) Burt Coillins, Jerry Kail, Ray Copeland, Nat Pavone, Marvin Stamm, trumpets; Bill Watrous, Garnett Brown, Wayne Andre or Mickey Gravine, trombones; Ray Starling, mellophonium; Don Butterfield, tuba; Arnie Lawrence, alto sax; Clifford Jordan, tenor sax; Joel Kaye, baritone sax, piccolo; Johnny Campo, bass sax; Johnny Knapp, piano; Chet Amsterdam, bass; Ronnie Bedford, drums; Steve Little, Chino Pozo, percussion.

Recorded at Capitol Studios, New York City in December 6 & 8, 1966.

Originally issued as AQUI SE HABLA ESPANOL (SPANISH SPOKEN HERE) (Roulette SR 25351).

Produced for release by Michael Cuscuna.

Session A-D are mono. All others are stereo.

Sessions F & G were remixed from the original four-track tapes by Malcolm Addey at the Malcolm Addey Studio, New York City.

Mastered in 24 bit by Malcolm Addey.

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