

ROCK & ROLL DISC™

VOLUME 3, NUMBER 9

September 1989

Ana Caram
Rio After Dark
Chesky JD28

Merit: ★★★1/2
Sound: ★★★

Caram's sensuous voice, luxuriant tone, and emphatic sound are not only miles ahead of a pop/schlocker like Gloria Estefan, but she's also a tougher, more intense stylist. The presence of the manic alto saxophonist Paquito D'Rivera plus a special stint from the legendary composer/performer Antonio Carlos Jobim adds historical significance to the occasion. Still, it's the often stunning singing of Caram that makes this a disc to savor; hopefully, word of her skills and undiluted excellence in real Latin circles will filter down to the masses, or at least beyond world beat circles.