

SEPTEMBER 1997

Manuel Rocheman Trio

Tropic City

A-RECORDS AL 73033 (40:39)

The trio of French pianist Rocheman, bassist Christopher Wallemme, and drummer Simon Goubert play eight numbers, four of them original compositions by Rocheman. "I Can't Get Started" shows Rocheman in a sensitive light. "Tropic City," "Alligators" and "Besame Mucho" reflect Latin influences while the blues predominates on "Paris Blues." "Sophisticated Lady" is recast in a samba mold. Rocheman, an impassioned pianist, interprets standards like "On Green Dolphin Street" or "Besame Mucho" with an attractive blend of the familiar and the original.

—*Marcela Breton*