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PERFORMANCE NOTES

Donald Fagen is the most original talent to come along in years. In this songbook, based on his first solo album, *THE NIGHTFLY*, he has given us a truly unique collection. Mr. Fagen's songs are arranged for piano/vocal with guitar chord frames that are nearly identical to the recorded version. Instrumental sections, such as the "marimba" intro to *THE GOODBYE LOOK*, the avant-garde intro to *RUBY BABY* and the instrumental interludes in *I.G.Y.* are included to make this songbook very authentic. Singers will find the vocal lines notated at true pitch, not an octave higher, as in most pop arrangements.

Another unusual twist is that the piano parts are for accompaniment only, and do not (except for *I.G.Y.* and *RUBY BABY*) double the melody. The rhythms and harmonies are so intricate, that playing them with the melody would make these arrangements too difficult for the average player. Pianists who wish to play the melody can "fake" a part from the vocal melody line and the chord symbols. As far as interpretation goes, play these charts with a light swinging touch. Fagen's music is greatly influenced by jazz, and players who are familiar with that idiom will have a distinct advantage. Guitarists will find that we have taken great pains to make the chord diagrams reflect the complete harmony in the piano part. Although this may lead the guitarist to unfamiliar chord formations and complicated fingerings, the richness of the harmony and logic of the progressions will make the effort more than worthwhile. All the arrangements are in the original keys, and can be played along with the record, with the exception of *I.G.Y.* This song was arranged a $\frac{1}{2}$ step higher in order to avoid the difficult key of *A b* minor (seven flats!). We are proud of the care and attention that has gone into *THE NIGHTFLY*, Donald Fagen's first solo songbook, as we are of every Cherry Lane publication.