

# World's first steelband CD is out

IT's here —the world's first compact disc (CD) of authentic steelband music. The brainchild of Sanch Electronix, corner Riverside Rd and Gordon Street, Curepe, the world's first steelband CD is available at the store.

The disc contains 69 minutes of music and features Trinidad All Stars, Phase II Pan Groove, Samaroo Jets, Len "Boogsie" Sharpe and Amoco Renegades marketed simply as "Steelbands of Trinidad and Tobago," the idea in this disc being to promote the steelband sound rather than individual steelbands.

While the disc will have something of a local market, its real market is international since it was released simultaneously three

weeks ago in the United States, the United Kingdom, Holland, France, Germany, Italy, Saudi Arabia, Canada, Panama, Japan and the rest of the Caribbean.

It contains the following tunes: *Sunset, Pan in A Minor, Love's Theme, To Be Continued, Unknown Band, I Just Called to Say I Love You, Sparrow Medley, Calypso Music, Brisad del Zulia, Somewhere Out There* and *The Hammer*.

And, in an imaginative marketing strategy, the disc comes in a smart protective case which contains a booklet that explains, with diagrams, steelband's history, traditional pan-making methods, and the part played by the various pans in a conventional steel orchestra.

The reproduction, done by Sanch, is superb which it had to be to be accepted for marketing and distribution by Delos International of California, a major producer of digital compact discs.

Compact discs are the cutting edge of the continuing technological revolution in the music industry. Their quality of reproduction is superior to conventional records and cassettes and since CD's are played by a light beam they are impervious to the normal wear and tear.

This is a collector's item and the hope is that Trinidadians, even if they do not yet own a CD set, will buy one either as a souvenir or to send abroad to family and friends in places where CD's have already become a fact of life.

