

CHICAGO SUNDAY TRIBUNE: FEBRUARY 7, 1943.

Rachmaninoff to Appear with Symphony This Week

Famed Pianist Will Play in Two Concerts

By Claudia Cassidy.

Sergei Rachmaninoff, whose recital at Orchestra hall earlier in the season was a revelation in the resources of the piano, returns to appear with the Chicago Symphony orchestra under the direction of Hans Lange at the pair of concerts Thursday night and Friday afternoon. He will play Beethoven's Concerto in F minor, No. 1, C major, and his own Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini—precisely what he played with the late Frederick Busch in a Tuesday afternoon concert two years ago in celebration of the orchestra's golden jubilee. He also conducted a program of his own music at the madrigal concert that season and returned last year to play his fourth piano concerto on another Rachmaninoff program.

The saturnine Russian, with the Mephistophelean twinkle, the hooded eyes and the cropped cap of unchanging hair, will be 70 years old April 1. Yet this man is a prodigy in his own time, for in that time he represented an older, more maturely, musically more romantic age.

Now an American citizen, he was born on a Russian estate near the Negro and was only a boy when that estate was relatively impoverished by the liberation of the serfs. Now richly quoted by Variety as "one of the American beauties," he was befriended by Tchaikovsky, whom he idolized.

These seem fairly tame adjectives in fact as in time, but nothing about the Rachmaninoff career has been ironic. When he was 20 he wrote the Prelude in C major minor, which 50 years later he plays under pressure, smiling victory in defeat when a doggerel determined audience refuses to go home without it. That prelude swept the world after it was introduced at a London concert by his virtuoso cousin, Alexander Siloti, and one of the results was London's invitation to the composer to conduct the Seattle Symphony orchestra and later held the same post with the Kansas City Philharmonic. Wherever he went the Chicago Symphony orchestra invariably recalled him to Orchestra hall. Mr. Quirk will play the Glassonoff concerto for violin in this program, starting at 7:15.

It came to the United States in 1907, projecting the first of many triumphs as composer, pianist, and conductor. He was several times offered the post as conductor of the Boston orchestra. In 1917, at Christmas, he found the Russia of revolution too limited and slipped over the border never to return. In 1921 he bought an estate on Lake Lucern, and it was there that he went in the spring of 1931, cutting short a tour, to com-

"GIRL WITH ENAMEL EYES"



Irina Baranova as Coppola of the Girl With the Enamel Eyes. She will dance the role during Ballet Theater's engagement of 15 performances opening at the Civic Opera house Wednesday evening, Feb. 24. Simon Semonoff has condensed the old two-act version into one act divided into three scenes.

pos the Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini, the most vital of his works for piano and orchestra since the glistering second and third concertos. His small circle there is directly across the lake from Tchaikovsky, the retreat where Wagner finished "Die Meistersinger" and "Siegfried" and identified "Götterdämmerung," and where he often was visited by Nietzsche, whose writings inspired the Strauss tone poems. Perhaps nothing was in the air.

Mr. Rachmaninoff will appear Thursday at 8:15 and Friday at 2:15 in this program:

- Overture, "Leningrad," No. 3, 10 minutes.
- Concerto for Piano No. 1, C major, 25 minutes.
- Pavane for Violin and Piano, 10 minutes.
- Concerto for Piano No. 2, F major, 25 minutes.
- Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini, 10 minutes.
- Siloti at the Tuesday afternoon concert, also under Mr. Lange's direction, is Robert Quirk, assistant conductor. Mr. Quirk is an American who at 25 was concertmaster of the Seattle Symphony orchestra and later held the same post with the Kansas City Philharmonic. Wherever he went the Chicago Symphony orchestra invariably recalled him to Orchestra hall. Mr. Quirk will play the Glassonoff concerto for violin in this program, starting at 7:15.
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Current Music News

Ellen Lindskog, contralto, will appear in recital at Kimball hall Wednesday evening at 8:30. Winner of both the Young Artists' contest of the Society of American Musicians and the Chicago Artists' association scholarship, Miss Lindskog will sing music of Parodi, Vancina Williams, Peter Warlock, Saint-Saëns, Duparc, Laub and Roubin, and a group of songs in Swedish by Palmgren, Sibelius, and Leonard.

Leonard Shore, pianist, will appear in recital at Curtis hall Wednesday at 8:15 to benefit the Chicago Conservatory's scholarship fund. His program includes Beethoven's Sonata in A flat, Opus 110; Shostakovich's First Prelude, Opus 34, and Schumann's Sonata in F minor, Opus 14.

The Chicago Medical Arts club will present Elizabeth Kerr, pianist, at the Gordon club Tuesday evening to benefit the Great Lakes Ambulance fund and its own war service.

The American Guild of Organists is sponsoring two recitals within the next 10 days. Dorothy Kern will appear in recital at Kimball hall Friday. Catherine Crozier will appear Monday evening, Feb. 15, also at Kimball hall, to benefit the Albert Einstein fund.

Radolph Beethoven's piano recital, originally scheduled for Feb. 20, has been postponed until March 2 at Puller hall.

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Mr. Heifetz's interest in American music has gone to the length of including Russell Bennett's "Heavenly Bodies," a form of jitterbug activity, on his programs. His interest in violin centers in his four prize-winning recordings of the piece of being made of aluminum by disappearing in the nation's first aluminum drive.

The Heifetz Guarnerius, dated 1712, got its name from the famous violinist who once owned it then gave it to his pupil, Wilhelm. It also belonged to a time to Saratoga.

Stradivarius in Heifetz's collection was loaned to him by a New York family until he could afford to buy it. Most valued for sentiment is the quarter size instrument on which, at the age of three, he took his first lesson from his father. The fourth violin he found in Capetown, South Africa, on the last of his world tours. It took three years to make, consists of 2796 mounds placed and glued tightly together, and can be played.

Hardly will the Heifetz echoes have died away when Joe Kirpava steps out on the stage of the Civic Opera house to sing his only recital of the season. Appearing next Sunday night, Mr. Kirpava will sing operatic arias, Polish songs, English songs, and a group of Russian songs. The Polish tour made his opera debut at Warsaw, and later sang at La Scala, in Vienna and Paris, and at the Colon in Buenos Aires. He has sung for several seasons with the Chicago Opera, and this last season found him adding Shostakovich in "Aida" to his list of roles.

The North Side Symphony orchestra, under the direction of Herbert Horner, will present a concert of American music at Cook High school Wednesday evening.

The Lake View Music society will sponsor its third concert of the Art

Dance Notes

Ballet Theater, which now proclaims itself "the greatest in Russian history," comes to the Civic Opera house Wednesday evening, Feb. 24, for an engagement of 15 performances at which the troupe will dance 19 ballets, four of them new to Chicago. Performances begin at 7:30 and at 8:30. The schedule:

- Wednesday, Feb. 24—"The Rite of Spring," "The Firebird," "The Sleeping Beauty," "The Nutcracker," "The Swan Lake," "The Tale of the Shoyun," "The Firebird," "The Nutcracker," "The Swan Lake," "The Tale of the Shoyun."
- Thursday, Feb. 25—"The Rite of Spring," "The Firebird," "The Sleeping Beauty," "The Nutcracker," "The Swan Lake," "The Tale of the Shoyun."
- Friday, Feb. 26—"The Rite of Spring," "The Firebird," "The Sleeping Beauty," "The Nutcracker," "The Swan Lake," "The Tale of the Shoyun."
- Saturday afternoon, Feb. 27—"The Rite of Spring," "The Firebird," "The Sleeping Beauty," "The Nutcracker," "The Swan Lake," "The Tale of the Shoyun."
- Sunday afternoon, Feb. 28—"The Rite of Spring," "The Firebird," "The Sleeping Beauty," "The Nutcracker," "The Swan Lake," "The Tale of the Shoyun."

"Aldo" is the first ballet Leonide Massine created for Ballet Theater, of which he is now a member. It is the result of a meeting in New York a year ago between Massine and Marc Chagall, the Russian painter. They collaborated on Chagall's costume design, "The Gypsy," to which Rachmaninoff once wrote an opera. However, they set it not to Rachmaninoff music, but to an orchestration of Tchaikovsky's Trio in A minor. The ballet was completed last summer at Mexico City and given its premiere there in September, 1942.

"Pillar of Fire" is another outstanding favorite among the newer works. It is Isacha Heifetz's solo in Shostakovich's "The Gypsy," with decor by Broadway's Jo Maitland. "Romantic Age" is Anton Dolin's ballet to Beethoven music, with decor by the Mexican, Carlos Merida. "Honey" first danced in Detroit last fall. It is the work of David Lichine, a male from Offenbach's "La Belle Helene" and decor by Marcel Vertès, who composed the witty "Bluebird." It tells the tale of Paris, Aphrodite and the golden apple.

The late Michel Fokine had returned his "Petrushka" as one of his last gifts to Ballet Theater, and Adolph Bolm, new Russian general, has been working on "Pier and the Wall." Simon Semonoff has arranged "Coppelia" in a shorter form of one act in three scenes, and the Maline ballet, "Fantastic Tsyphop," and "Capriccio Espagnol" will bring him a kind of balletic dream.

Bonnie Massimo, the troupe holder, has had the troupe, including Conrad, Lynn, Oats, Kaye, and dance.

The Arts Club announces a dance recital by Mervyn Cunningham and Joan Edmund next Sunday evening, Feb. 14. Mr. Cunningham has done some notable work with Martha Graham.

Arnold Edelstein, Brazilian pianist, who won the Columbia concert artists' award, makes his North American debut at Carnegie hall this afternoon, playing the Tchaikovsky concerto with Bruno Walter and the New York Philharmonic symphony. Mr. Edelstein will appear with the Chicago Symphony orchestra March 11 and 12.

The school of music of Central Y.M.C.A. college is now offering a graduate course leading to a master's degree. Students may major in piano, organ, voice, any orchestral instrument, theory, composition or musical-ology.

CLASSICAL RECORDINGS

By Claudia Cassidy.

Once in a while the New York Philharmonic Symphony must give the record mark that while it has the best individual players in the country, it often sounds like a orchestra.

It takes the trouble to reorganize such a reputation with the stock market. Fortunately for the record collector, the new album of Shostakovich's Symphony No. 1, F minor, displays the orchestra at its best, under the sensitive direction of John Barbirolli (Columbia M531). Five 12 inch records.

If you happen not to like the Gramophone recording of the same symphony, as I don't, you will find this new set a treasure. From the first shrill cry of the violin to the ardent song of the finale it is a notable performance, completely in focus, played with the dexterity and fluency they can make an orchestra rival.

Mr. Barbirolli has indicated both the wild beauty and the amber poetry of the score, and his orchestra's performance matches these qualities. There is a particular attractive passage in the slow movement which tells the viola along over a plucked cello.

Gulmar Novacek always has a falter in moments long to her plian, which is one reason why the Brazilian is a consistent favorite with audiences. That exciting exuberance is caught in a new Columbia 10 inch when she plays three selections from Villa-Lobos' "The Baby's Family." They are "Chim Chim," "Big Ball" and "Cartão de Natal" enclosing excerpts from a waltz series.

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Music Calendar

- THIS WEEK
- Monday at 8:15—Ellen Lindskog, contralto, at Kimball hall.
- Monday at 8:15—Leonard Shore, pianist, at Curtis hall.
- Tuesday at 8:15—Chicago Symphony orchestra at Orchestra hall. Hans Lange, conductor. Robert Quirk, assistant conductor.
- Wednesday at 8:15—Chicago Conservatory at Curtis hall. Elizabeth Kerr, pianist.
- Thursday at 8:15—Friday at 8:15—Chicago Symphony orchestra at Orchestra hall. Hans Lange, conductor. Sergei Rachmaninoff, pianist.
- Friday at 8:15—Isacha Heifetz, violinist, at Kimball hall.
- Saturday at 8:15—Chicago Symphony orchestra in recital at Orchestra hall. Hans Lange, conductor.
- CONCERTS
- Sunday, Feb. 14, at 2:30—Isacha Heifetz, violinist, at Civic Opera house.
- Sunday, Feb. 14, at 8—Joe Kirpava, tenor, at Civic Opera house.
- Sunday, Feb. 14, at 8—Mervyn Cunningham and Joan Edmund, at Civic Opera house.
- Monday, Feb. 15, at 8:15—Elizabeth Kerr, pianist, at Kimball hall.
- Monday, Feb. 15, at 8:15—Leonard Shore, pianist, at Curtis hall.
- Monday, April 4, at 8:15—Marian Anderson, contralto, at Civic Opera house.

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