

PHILA. ORCHESTRA

Mozart's Symphony in G Minor Feature of Yesterday's Programme

The Philadelphia Orchestra was heard at the Academy of Music yesterday afternoon to the delectation of a large audience in a programme which comprised as its orchestral numbers a composition by Strawinsky, entitled "Fireworks," and Wagner's "Ride of the Valkyries," and which had the G minor symphony of Mozart as its most salient and substantial feature. It were little less than impertinent to expatiate on the values or qualities of this classic masterpiece. They are familiar to every musical amateur, who know that in the beauty of its theme and in the crystalline clearness of its construction it represents the ripest fruit of its illustrious composer's genius. It was admirably played, with a lovely refinement of feeling and the utmost lucidity of exposition, and the applause which it evoked was so persistent that the musicians were finally called upon to join with Mr. Stokowski in its acknowledgment.

It was followed by Rachmaninoff's Concerto for Piano and Orchestra in C minor, No. 2, interpreted as to the piano part by Rachmaninoff himself. This concerto, which owing to the constant subordination of the piano part is really a symphony with a piano obligato accompaniment, while less melodious and less profoundly emotional than the one immediately preceding it, is extremely interesting and deeply impressive, and in such small opportunities for personal display as it provides, Mr. Rachmaninoff's superb technique was brilliantly exhibited. It was evident that the audience enjoyed it and admired the performance of its exponent very much, for Mr. Rachmaninoff was required to respond to four recalls which were too insistent to be disregarded.

Then came Strawinsky's "Fireworks," of which it may be said that it would have been greatly enjoyed by the Shah or Sultan, to whom the best and most notable thing in the Occidental concert which he had been over-persuaded to attend was the tuning of the instruments. A splendidly vigorous and impetuous rendering of the Valkyrie music brought the proceedings to an impassioned and resounding close. Another opportunity to hear this attractive programme will be afforded this evening.