

MUSIC

By OLIN DOWNES.

Sergel Rachmaninoff's Recital.

Sergel Rachmaninoff gave his second piano recital yesterday afternoon in Carnegie Hall, and, as usual, made a deep impression on the audience which overflowed the seating capacity of the auditorium. He played the early sonata of Beethoven, op. 26; two etudes of Mendelssohn, the Schumann "Symphonic Studies;" Liszt's "Funeralles"; "Fairy Tales" by Medtner; two Etudes Tableaux of Rachmaninoff, and the Strauss-Tausig Waltz. And he played many encores.

There are few pianists who give the impression of the gigantic as Mr. Rachmaninoff does. He is simplicity itself, in manner on the platform, in the great, firm lines of his interpretations. He does not distort, and he is capable of playing a miniature as a miniature; and yet, even then, there is something big, something of the artistic personality back of the small form, which reflects the mentality, the complete, pervasive and inescapable sincerity of the man back of the music.

It is an honor and an inspiration to have such a musician among us. No one has gained a public by methods more direct and unadorned, and no one has held this public more firmly. The reason is first and last that Mr. Rachmaninoff is a great artist, that he cares only for his art, and pursues his way in it, as composer and performer, quite regardless of any other interests or considerations. When he plays questions of personality are erased, and the listener is brought into the presence of creative genius. Mr. Rachmaninoff's audiences—laymen and musicians alike—feel these things, and respond to them. He exerted yesterday his familiar spell, and it was the pianist who was finally forced to take leave of an audience unwilling to leave the hall.

The New York Times

Published: April 3, 1927

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