

RACHMANINOFF PLAYS CHOPIN AND LISZT

Russian Pianist Delights a Large Audience With His Interpretive Power.

Sergei Rachmaninoff, the Russian pianist of colossal interpretive power, devoted the program of his recital given yesterday afternoon in Carnegie Hall to Chopin and Liszt. Chopin was represented by the F minor Ballade, the Rondo in E flat, a nocturne, waltz, Fantaise Impromptu, Mazurka and B minor scherzo. Liszt was heard in the form of the early and ultra-romantic Ballade in B minor, the Valse Impromptu, the Sonnetto after Petrarch and the E major Polonaise. From such a selection, if the interpretations of the distinguished pianist and composer are discounted, Chopin would emerge considerably superior to his contemporary. In lesser hands than Mr. Rachmaninoff's, the B minor sonata would be about as much related to unmusical standards of the present period as a very bad painting of Turner would be viewed if it were put by the side of some masterpiece of Picasso.

Liszt's music, however, was given its uttermost meaning and inference, and the splendor of Mr. Rachmaninoff's tone, his full fortissimi, his capacity for the broad and noble treatment of a melodic line, glorified the brilliantly pianistic music. In playing Chopin—the Chopin of very familiar music of greater or lesser merit—the pianist had material more essentially poetic and original to deal with. Of it he made much in his native and inimitable manner. In addition to the program as announced Mr. Rachmaninoff played some half dozen encores for a large and delighted audience.

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