

Rachmaninoff Recital

Sergei Rachmaninoff, the Russian pianist, gave his first Boston recital of the season yesterday afternoon in Symphony Hall. There was the usual packed house, and the deep absorption of the audience in the music which is always observed when Mr. Rachmaninoff plays. He is a super-pianist, because he is a great musician as well as a virtuoso.

He is not thinking so much of pretty piano effective as big lines and individual, recreative interpretation. Yet Mr. Rachmaninoff also understood the pellucid transparency of Mozart, the exquisite curve of his melodies, the miniature quality of Mozart's sonata written for a piano of much lighter tone and action than the modern grand.

Turning again to such romantic music as that of Chopin, Mr. Rachmaninoff unfolded the whole gamut of tone colors, of which Chopin made the piano capable, and played as a poet and a dramatist various compositions of that master. The concert came to an end in a virtuoso whirl of fireworks, and the audience responded in similar spirit.