

## Rachmaninoff Opens Civic Concert Series Friday In Columbus

Sergi Rachmaninoff, celebrated pianist, opened the Civic Series for this season Friday evening in Memorial Hall, Columbus, with a recital that was a delight as well as a musical triumph.

With the years, the art of this composer-pianist seems to attain even greater heights of skill, power, and interpretation and his recital Friday evening was more than satisfying.

A splendid audience comfortably filled Memorial Hall and every appearance of the artist and every number of his program were heralded and greeted with rounds of applause.

Exquisite the opening number, "Variations on a Theme of Schubert," C. Tausig; powerful pass-

ages marked the stately "Organ Prelude and Fugue," A minor. Bach-Liszt; extreme delicacy his "Rondo Capriccioso," Mendelssohn; and great power the magnificent "Sonata Appassionata," Beethoven, allegro assai, andante con moto, and allegro ma non troppo.

These numbers composed the first half of the program and returning after a short intermission, Mr. Rachmaninoff played first "Nocturne D flat major" and "Two Mazurkas," Chopin. The exquisite beauty of the compositions was enhanced by the faultless technique of the artist.

"Humoresque" (newly revised), "Moment Musical" (newly revised), "Etude-tableau C major," and "Etude-tableau E flat major," all Rachmaninoff's compositions and marked with the peculiar harmony found in his compositions, followed, and two Liszt numbers "Sonnetto del Petrarca," A flat major and "Rhapsody No. 11," superbly rendered, closed the formal program. The audience would not be satisfied and when Mr. Rachmaninoff returned for two encores the continued applause very definitely called for his famous "Prelude."

With a half smile flitting across his sombre features he played his "Prelude" that has been known and loved in every country on the globe and that seems to tell of the square in Russia white with snow. Of church bells ringing, of a life known no longer in that country across the sea.

Mrs. Ruth B. Weaver, Redlands, California, and Mrs. Kathryn Houk motored to Columbus late Friday afternoon for dinner and later heard the program at Memorial Hall.



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