

# MUSIC

## Rachmaninoff Opens 'U' Artists Series

By JOHN K. SHERMAN

**S**ERGEI RACHMANINOFF continues to be one of the most dramatic and compelling of musical figures in the world today.

He himself is one of the famous sights of the concert hall—a paradoxical one too, for it is still a matter of amazement that from the stooped, seemingly apathetic six-footer with his wizened, mask-like face should issue such persuasive phrase and enchanting tone.

His recital at Northrop auditorium last night, opening the University Artists course, made a wide swing from Bach through the romantic composers and concluded with a delectable group of songs arranged for piano. These latter cast a spell over an

enslaved audience, which hated to let him escape permanently into the wings.

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It is always interesting to witness the impress of Rachmaninoff's personality on music of the classic period—like the Mozart A major variations, and his own arrangement of the Bach E major partita for violin. In the former, the sprightly, extravert style of Mozart is veiled and given an elusive suggestiveness throughout; in the Bach we find a harmonization which, if true to Bach's purposes, nevertheless has Slav undercurrents.

The Beethoven C minor sonata, opus 111, was the crowning achievement of the evening. Its turbulent first movement was played with impetuosity and firm left-hand emphasis, its slow second movement explored with profound insight into its long-phrased themes and inward-looking mood.

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Unquestionably Rachmaninoff's greatest success, from the audience's viewpoint, was in the eight songs arranged for piano

that concluded the program. Here the appeal of the pianist's art made itself felt most sensuously, for the pieces were well selected as to winsome melody and brilliant virtuosity, and each was a morsel that melted on the ear's palate.

## German-Sunk Ship Eisenach Refloated

PUNTARENAS, COSTA RICA—(AP)—After months of work a San Francisco salvage company today refloated the German ship Eisenach, which was set afire and sunk by its crew last March.

The ship was one of those scuttled by Italian and German crews when Axis ships in north and South American ports were taken over by the American governments.

Raising of the Italian ship Fella, also sunk by its crew, will begin immediately.

TONIGHT'S STAR GUEST WITH  
**FRED ALLEN**  
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