

# Critic Hails Recital Of Composer

Large Audience Hears Music  
By Rachmaninoff at  
Carnegie Hall

By RALPH LEWANDO  
Press Music Critic

The ideals that inspired the founding of the Art Society of Pittsburgh 65 years ago, and the high standards to which this organization is dedicated, were reflected in a brilliant and enjoyable recital played last evening in Carnegie Music Hall by a titan of musical art—Serge Rachmaninoff!



The first concert of the Society's current season brought out the largest audience in years which packed the auditorium and required placing 150 seats on the stage.

It was a happy opportunity to see in the flesh one of the greatest composers of our time, and certainly a privilege to hear him play certain works of a program, containing much of interest, that revealed the facets of his genius as an instrumental interpreter.

### 'Reached Hearts'

It was a joy to listen to this poet of the keyboard give utterance to these inspired compositions of immortals of musical art. The projection of this music was accomplished with a directness, simplicity and style that seemed to reach the hearts of everyone present.

The first half of the list, devoted to works of the classic era, included the rarely heard A-minor Variations of Rameau; the E-minor Toccata of J. S. Bach; Beethoven's sonata, opus 81 b, and an Impromptu and Rondo of Schubert. The delicacy and crystalline tone effects of the Rameau item, the consummate style and variety evidenced in the Bach piece, and the unique and stimulating treatment given the Beethoven number are experiences to cherish. The ensuing Schubert pieces, played with beauty of phrasing and nuance, further enhanced the performance.

Here indeed was sheer inspired piano playing of unusual appeal. Here too, was playing untarnished by those personal mannerisms and theatricals which, unfortunately, have become part of so many performers before the public. Small wonder that Mr. Rachmaninoff's unostentatious yet impelling performance held everyone in rapt attention.

### Chopin Preludes Played

The second half of the program opened with the recitalist's own Prelude in G-major, a work of stimulating proportion replete with musical values. This was followed by 12 Chopin preludes. In performance of these delightful miniatures Mr. Rachmaninoff made of each a beautifully etched tonal cameo.

The ensuing Liszt Sonnetto del Petrarca was encompassed with brilliance and a show of dazzling technical skill, and the same composer's transcription of excerpts from Gounod's opera, Faust, closed the regular program.

The latter work despite the glow-performance given it, seemed rather tawdry after the preceding numbers, and one wonders why pieces of such caliber are programmed by artists of Mr. Rachmaninoff's eminence! The audience vigorously acclaimed the pianist who was recalled repeatedly to acknowledge the ovations.

### Encores Offered

Several encores were offered at the conclusion of the list, principal of which was the perennial C-sharp

## SCREEN TEST OKAYE



Miss Haworth, former Pittsburgh leave for the West Coast and a H on Nov. 1. A screen test made this she was modeling in a prominent shop, resulted in a stock contr

## Shows To See

- PLAYHOUSE — "It Can't Happen Here"  
Ray Hurd and Helen Wayne. Curtain at 8:45.
- PENN.—"Three Sisters"  
Bettie Davis and Errol Flynn. Feature begins 11:00. 1:21, 3:33, 5:45, 7:57, 10:09.
- STANLEY — "The Arkansas Traveler"  
Bob Burns and Irvin S. Cobb. Feature begins 11:00, 1:40, 4:30, 7:40, 10:30. On stage: Ted Lewis and band at 12:00, 3:40, 6:50, 9:45.
- ALVIN—"That Certain Age"  
Deanna Durbin and Jackie Cooper. Feature begins 11:17, 1:27, 3:37, 5:47, 7:57, 10:07.
- FULTON—"Give Me a Sailor"  
Martha Raye and Bob Hope. Also, "Buildup Drummond in Africa." John Howard. Complete shows at 11:14, 1:48, 4:22, 6:56, 9:30.
- WARNER—"Statemates"  
Wallace Berry and Mickey Rooney. Feature begins 11:36, 1:46, 3:56, 6:06, 8:16, 10:26.
- ART CINEMA—"Moonlight Sonata"  
Lynce Paperewski and Marie Tempest. Dialogue in English. Feature begins 10:30, 11:58, 1:40, 3:22, 5:04, 6:46, 8:28, 10:10.
- ENRIGHT—"Little Tough Guy"  
Dead End Kids. Also, "Army Girl." Com-

minor prelude of Mr. Rachmaninoff. When he sounded the opening notes of this popular number the audience interrupted with a burst of enthusiastic applause.

The originally planned second Art Society event which was to have been given by Marjorie Lawrence, Metropolitan Opera soprano, Nov. 7, has been postponed to a date to be announced later.

### AMUSEMENTS

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