

Rachmaninoff's Dream of 'Going Home,' Is Blasted as Russia Closes Doors to Him

Pianist 'Unable to Understand Modern Music,' Not Impressed by Radio

BY ANNA SOMMER

For 15 years Sergei Rachmaninoff has dreamed of returning to Russia to live and work. He realizes now that he had dreamed the impossible.

"They will never let me re-enter," sighed the Russian piano virtuoso who is in San Francisco on his 16th visit. "Love of country is a passion with us Russians. I suppose it is with everyone. But everyone is not an exile."

Rachmaninoff seems a man weighted down by unutterable sorrow. The pale, powerful hands drooped over the instrument in his St. Francis Hotel suite. The close-cropped hair looked curiously boyish over his weary eyes. He is not optimistic over the future of modern music.

World Too Chaotic

"I am sorry to say I cannot understand it. I know I am not talented enough to compose it," said the famous composer. "I still find the classic mode the only true one. Where lasting new music will come from—I do not know. The world is too chaotic for me to say."

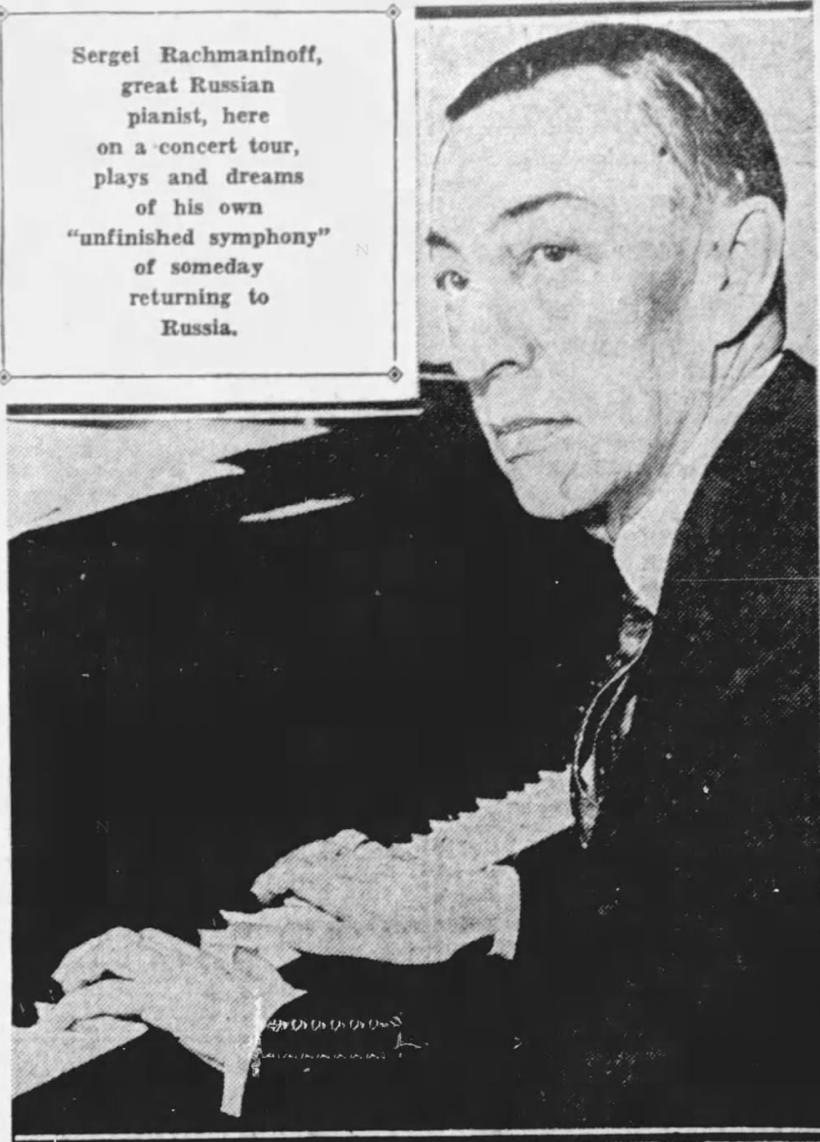
When Rachmaninoff goes on a concert tour, he plays, practices, reads—and does nothing else. He travels with a library of Russian literature. His composing he does during off-season, on his estate in Switzerland. He believes that the radio is the death of creative talent.

Here for Concert

"It is a great invention, no doubt," he commented in his slow, whispering voice. "But it is making the people lethargic. In other days, those who loved music and those who had talent, had to learn an instrument. Today most of them satisfy their musical instincts vicariously."

Rachmaninoff, who is here with Mme. Rachmaninoff, will be heard in the War Memorial Opera House Thursday night.

Sergei Rachmaninoff, great Russian pianist, here on a concert tour, plays and dreams of his own "unfinished symphony" of someday returning to Russia.



ROCK SLIDE KILLS MAN
LAS VEGAS, Nev., Feb. 8.—Boulder Dam added another victim to its construction toll today when M. M. Kaighn, 38, of Eureka, Utah, was killed in a rockslide while working in a Pennstock tunnel. Harry Blacklock, an electrician, was slightly injured. Kaighn was buried under 100 tons of rock.

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