

## Rachmaninoff Accorded Enthusiastic Reception By Lynchburg Audience

Rachmaninoff, distinguished Russian pianist, devoted an entire program to the fantasie type of music last evening in a concert, marked by that freedom, imagination and beauty which no other sort of composition so successfully engenders. It was given at Smith Memorial building under the local management of Miss Emma Adams.

Whether playing the "phantasies-tucke" of Schumann, in which the hearers' interpretation receives direction from the titles, or the familiar "Sonata Quasi Una Fantasia" of Beethoven, with the intriguing irregularities from which it derives its caption, the pianist stirred to clamorous expressions of delight a large and discriminating audience. His versatility was exemplified in his program-building as well as in his playing, for while the musical fantasy formed the base of the program, there is no other expression in music which allows such latitude for composer and for performer, and the schedule of numbers last evening was vividly contrasting.

Selecting from the work of his contemporary and fellow Russian, Alexander Scriabine, the delicate and beautiful "Sonate Fantaisie" in two movements, as his opening number, Mr. Rachmaninoff captivated his hearers from the beginning, and insistent demands for augmentation of his program were met by several encores, among them his own C-Sharp Minor

Prelude, two Chopin numbers and the Rimsky-Korsokoff "Bumble Bee."

No program of the year would be complete without inclusion of a composition by Haydn in celebration of the bicentennial of his birth now being observed. Mr. Rachmaninoff selected the fantasy in C Major for his concert last evening, and this was followed by the Chopin "Fantaisie," one of the outstanding events of the program. The first section ended with the whimsical Schumann group.

Beethoven and Liszt made up the second half of the program, the intellectual and inspiring rendition reaching a brilliant climax in the Liszt "Fantasia Quasi Sonata" which was played with an ease and abandon seldom brought to that composition.

The artist received a welcome which has rarely been equalled in Lynchburg, and in his audience were music-lovers from Lynchburg, the nearby colleges and many other cities. Seats were reserved by guests from Richmond, Radford, Bristol, Roanoke, University, Lexington, Farmville, Bedford and South Boston, while from Hollins College came fifty and from Southern Seminary and Hampden-Sydney College a score or more, to hear the great Russian composer-pianist.

He is accompanied by his wife and his manager and they will spend today in Lynchburg before resuming his tour.