

## Music Lovers Hear Rachmaninoff Play

Recital of Composer-Pianist  
Meets Enthusiastic Re-  
sponse in Elmwood Hall.

By EDWARD DURNEY

Sergei Rachmaninoff's program of Sunday afternoon, in Elmwood Music hall, began with the first movement (Theme and Variations) of the Mozart A Major Sonata, and thus early in the afternoon's proceedings the celebrated composer-pianist acquitted himself of distinguished playing that was not excelled at any time during the further progress of the recital. Mozart, Beethoven, Chopin, Debussy, Rachmaninoff and Liszt made up the list of composers represented, and the performer, playing to the usual throng, again disclosed virtuosity, artistry, and eccentricity as interpreter. The Mozart was all-satisfying in its authenticity of style, its clarity, its delicacy, its simplicity.

Rachmaninoff invested the Beethoven "Moonlight" sonata with qualities that may be termed individual. Those who like their rubato in large doses must have found satisfaction in his interpretation of the slow movement. It is by no means revealing at this late date again to mention this pianist's tendency to overstress melodic figures. This trait was apparent particularly in the Beethoven adagio and later in the lyric intermezzo of the Chopin B Minor Scherzo.

Virtuosity embraced the pianist's performance of the Chopin G Minor Ballade, the Scherzo, his own Etudes Tableaux and the closing Liszt Rhapsodie.

The pianist charmed the ear with the two Chopin Mazurkas he offered, also in his lovely playing of the Liszt "Sonnetto del Patraca," E Major, and "Voices of the Wood." He scored, too, in his happy revelation of the drollery and charm of numbers of the Debussy "Children's Corner" suite.

The artist was showered with applause. His encores, two in number, were the well-worn E-flat Major Nocturne, Chopin, and his own much used and abused C-sharp Minor Prelude. Hearing the prelude invariably brings to mind Huneker's comment that it must have been written on the death of a Brooklyn piano-tuner.

This was the seventh program in the Zorah B. Berry philharmonic series.