

Many Mistake Vassilievitch For a Mere Piano Mover!

Rutlanders who had never seen the great pianist, Sergi Vassilievitch Rachmaninoff, couldn't quite figure him out when he stepped onto the stage of the Armory last night.

In the first place, his attendant had a mighty hard time trying to unlock the special piano which the famous musician uses. That caused a laugh. Then someone apparently locked the door that led to the stage after the artist had gone through it. "Aha, they're locking him in," said a number of the audience, and that caused another "prologue titter."

Then, while hundreds who had never seen Fritz Kreisler, Rachmaninoff, or other "ordinary-looking" musicians in person, sat there

trying to hold their breath in excited expectation, the curtains parted and out stepped a tall and very usual-looking person with extremely close cropped hair.

"Must be going to move the piano again," said someone—and then the very ordinary-looking gentleman bowed. But it was not until he had turned around and exposed his flowing coat-tails and the applause of those who knew him of old had died down that some of the audience realized that this was not a piano-mover, but Sergei Vassilievitch himself!

And as he started to play, there were still disillusioned young things saying, "Why, oh why, hasn't he long, flowing, curly hair like musicians are supposed to have?"