

Music

Russian Pianist Superb Artist

Sergel Rachmaninoff, who has been proclaimed one of the greatest creative composers and pianists of the age, was heard in a concert last evening at the Metropolitan theater that surpassed all expectations. Not only is he a composer of international fame, but his playing proclaimed him a master pianist as well. His compositions are now included in the repertoire of every symphony orchestra, as well as on the programs of concert pianists and singers. His fame had long ago spread to the coast and this, his first appearance here, was indeed a veritable triumph for him.

Words are inadequate to express the playing of Rachmaninoff, as the mastery of his instrument has come as near perfection as possible. His technique is flawless, and his power of expression such that he portrays every emotion to the audience without effort.

His interpretation of Beethoven's "Apassionata Sonata" was indeed a revelation of pianistic art. His tonal coloring, light or profound, was superb. This was followed by Mendelssohn's "Rondo Capriccioso," an exquisite composition beautifully given. In Schumann's "Carnival" the artist revealed all the different phases of the gay revelers. "Etude D Flat Major" and "Campanella," both by Liszt, were also given a wonderful reading.

The numbers on the program, however, that received an ovation were his own "Melodie" and a transcription of Kreisler's "Liebesleid." The audience refused to allow the artist to close his program after these numbers, and he graciously responded with "The Spinning Song" by Mendelssohn, Chopin's "Minute Waltz," "Blue Danube" by Schultz-Eyler, and then his own well known "C Sharp Minor Prelude," which took on a new light under his fingers.

At their next concert the Ladies' Musical club will present Edward Johnson, distinguished tenor of the Metropolitan Opera company, in concert March 12 at the Metropolitan theater.

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