

RACHMANINOFF IS HEARD IN CONCERT

Playing Of Distinguished Russian Artist Is Characterized By Originality; Last Of Artist Series.

The fifth and last of the annual artist concert series was that of Sergei Rachmaninoff, the Russian pianist and composer, given at Woodland Park auditorium last evening.

Under Rachmaninoff's hands the piano becomes a living being. It becomes a soul torn by pent up emotion, yet always curbed by a strong will so that only glimpses of the depths can be seen. The grace and charm of his playing is utterly indescribable; he is indeed a true poet of music.

Rachmaninoff seems to absorb the ideas of each composer and then restate them in a manner characteristically his own. His playing is delightfully original and so different from all others that it is almost unbelievable that the old compositions could be dressed up in such a new and attractive garb. His art is characterized by culture and by a seemingly subdued emotion. His symmetry and balance and perfect observance of form make of each composition that he plays a work of art, chiseled and moulded with exquisite skill.

For the first number of his program Rachmaninoff gave the Appassionata Sonata, by Beethoven. He played this in a way so decidedly his own that it seemed like an unknown composition. Indeed, after hearing the playing of this number it is safe to say that for many it has been unknown.

The Chopin group was very wonderful indeed. All of the numbers were given with a poetry and charm that surely would have rivaled even Chopin himself.

It is really a delight to hear a composer play his own compositions, especially when the composer is also a pianist par excellence, for then it is possible to hear exactly what they were intended to express. The Prelude in C sharp minor, a Serenade, and an arrangement of the "Lieberleid," by Kreisler, comprised the group of his own compositions.

The last two numbers on the program were the "Fairy Tale," by Medtner and the "Campanella" by Liszt. The tremendously difficult Liszt "Campanella" was played with a delicacy and virtuosity almost unbelievable. It was a revelation in accurate, clean cut skill.

As this is the last of the annual artist concert series it is only fitting that Miss Goff should be thanked for the great work she is doing for the people of Lexington and the surrounding country. The management of these concerts requires an enormous amount of time and energy and the community should stand solidly behind Miss Goff in this artistic enterprise.

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