

NOVELTIES PLAYED BY RACHMANINOFF

Russian Pianist's Programme Includes His Variations on Chopin Theme.

Serget Rachmanhoff gave his third piano recital in Carnegie Hall yesterday afternoon. Seldom indeed is the performance of a pianist heard with such great interest as was that of Mr. Rachmaninoff yesterday. The audience, which was large, followed each number he played with applause which might easily have meant a repetition. There were no added numbers during the programme.

The distinguished Russian musician styled his entertainment "a concert of music for the pianoforte." The works in the list were all Russian and marked as played for the first time in New York. Three composers were represented, Mr. Rachmaninoff, Scriabine and N. Medtner.

The composer played his own variations on a theme by Chopin, opus 22. The theme of these variations is that of the C minor prelude. A work of fine power and imagination, it is strange that it should not figure in concert programmes. As played yesterday it was in a form somewhat changed from that in which it first was published ten or more years ago. Some six of the original variations were left out yesterday, one, new, was substituted and a bravura finale is now set as a quiet mood.

A group evidently meant by Mr. Rachmaninoff to strike a high light in his programme was the third, made up of eight preludes, opus 11; two etudes, opus 42, by Scriabine, and by Medtner a "Tragedie-Fragment" and three "Fairy Stories." These pieces had as a whole strong individuality and they were played with splendid rhythm, accent, virility and color.

Other selections were a "Sonate-Fantaisie," opus 19, of Scriabine, and in closing Mr. Rachmaninoff's "Etudes-Tableaux." The recital began with an arrangement of "The Star Spangled Banner," evidently by Mr. Rachmaninoff, which was beautifully played.