

Bodanzky Presents Russian Music in Symphony Concert

One of Three Numbers Is Novelty; Variations for Orchestra by Stein- berg Are Well Liked

Arturo Bodanzky chose an all-Russian program for yesterday afternoon's concert of the New Symphony Orchestra. There were only three numbers, but one of them was a novelty. Maximilian Ossisevich Steinberg is a young Russian who as late as 1918 was professor of instrumentation at the Petrograd Conservatory. A footnote in Mr. Lawrence Gilman's program notes makes the announcement that it is understood Steinberg has since died, but that there has been no confirmation of the report. It is to be hoped that there never will be any, for his Variations for Orchestra show him to be a musician of real promise. The theme is graceful, the variations are filled with color and variety of mood. The composition was written as far back as 1905, when Steinberg was only seventeen, and, though there is in it nothing revolutionary either in matter or manner, it is so fresh and spontaneous in spirit that it is altogether delightful. Mr. Bodanzky conducted it *con amore*.

The solo artist of the afternoon was Sergei Rachmaninoff, who played his own Piano Concerto No. 1 with the revised version which he first gave in New York last January with the Russian Symphony Orchestra. While the concerto, even in its revised version, is by no means the equal of his later work, it is spontaneous in its spirit and possesses not a little charm. Mr. Rachmaninoff gave it a brilliant performance and Mr. Bodanzky provided a most sympathetic accompaniment. The concluding number was Rimsky-Korsakoff's "The Tale of the Tsar Sultan," which suffered somewhat from a certain crudity of tone on the part of the band, but which Mr. Bodanzky gave none the less with spirit.