

For his final appearance as a conductor this season, Rachmaninoff chose Borodin's Second Symphony, Glazunov's "Spring," and Rimsky-Korsakov's "Battle of the Kerzhenets." The program, admittedly, was not particularly fresh, but it was so substantial and artistically valuable that the Philharmonic Society's fifth symphonic concert proved quite interesting. Borodin's Symphony was, of course, very well conducted—Rachmaninoff can't conduct unsuccessfully—but somehow sluggishly; too restrained. Only the final movements seemed more alive and fresh. But the pieces by Glazunov and Rimsky-Korsakov were performed superbly, that is, not only with skill and talent, but also with heartfelt sincerity. Casals was the soloist—that first among the unique, the most serious of the noble and the most subtle of the impeccably artistic. He played a concerto by Dvorak. [...] Gr. Pr[okofiev]

[Translation: Google]

Для послѣднего въ этомъ сезонѣ выхода своего въ качествѣ дерижера Рахманиновъ выбралъ 2-ю симфонію Бородина, «Весну» Глазунова и «Сѣчу при Керженцѣ» Римскаго - Корсакова. Программа недостаточно, правда, свѣжая, но настолько содержательная и художественно цѣнная, что пятое симфоническое собраніе Филармоническаго Общества оказалось весьма интереснымъ. Симфонія Бородина прошли, конечно, очень хорошо-неудачно дирижировать Рахманиновъ не можетъ—но какъ-то вяло; слишкомъ ужъ сдержанно. Только послѣднія части прозвучали какъ будто живѣе и свѣжѣе. За то пьесы Глазунова и Римскаго-Корсакова прошли превосходно, т. е. не только умѣло и даро вито, но и задушевно искренно. Солировалъ Казальсъ, — этотъ первый между единственными, серьезнѣйшій изъ благородныхъ и тончайшій изъ безукоризненно-художественныхъ. Онъ игралъ концертъ Дворжака.