

NOTABLE LIST OF CONCERTS PLANNED FOR THE NEW YEAR

ARTISTS FLOCKING TO CAPITAL AFTER WINTER HOLIDAYS

Busy Weeks Lie Ahead for Washington's Music Lovers, and Making a Choice From Competing Attractions May at Times Prove Difficult—Some Thoughts on Uniforms for Singers, and on Events of the Day.

By LEE SOMERS.

AFTER Christmas and New Year—the deluge. This is going to be a month of concerts of all kinds and sizes, and there are so many of them that if any more were scheduled it would almost be necessary to lengthen the month.

Cortot, d'Alvarez, the Philadelphia orchestra, John Charles Thomas, the New York Symphony, Samaroff, Siloti, Ruth St. Denis and the Denishawn Dancers, the Cleveland Orchestra, Kreisler, John McCormack and Joseph Hofmann—these are all prominent for the opening month of 1923, and the list has every potentiality of being increased.

Three events additionally, which are of more than local interest, are the two concerts of Polish music to be held in connection with the Polish art exhibition, at the art center, and the benefit concert to be given next Sunday, by the Elks' Band, and, of course there are the usual community concerts on Sunday evenings, with Miss Hazel Huntington, prima donna of "The Impresario," announced as the guest artist for tonight.

LESIE A. SLOPER, patron of the arts and critic extraordinary, emits, via Musical America, the following wail from cultured Boston:

"Not so long ago three well-known women singers sang excerpts from the music of certain of Wagner's operas, with a great symphony orchestra. Afterward, one of the singers, a charming lady, meeting a man friend, asked him if he had attended the performance, and on being told he had, looked expectant. The man, being a brute, but not wholly proof against the demand for the expected, murmured his admiration for the singing, but rashly added something about his enjoyment having been diluted by the 'ugliness' of the gowns worn. The fate of this unctuous person need not be descanted upon; it is of no importance. What is important is that he was ruthlessly brushing the lid of politeness from a cauldron of discontent which is likely sooner or later to boil over. 'Wanted—A uniform for singers,' is the slogan of a multitude of music lovers who are at the same time milliners' apprentices. In the case of men singers, of course, the uniform is provided, although it might be improved on. In the case of women, the need of it is so great as almost to justify the use of the adjective 'crying.' For who can listen attentively to a beautiful voice when the costume from which it seems to emanate attacks the eye with a chromatic cacophony or a shrieking monotone?"

"Who can compose his thought to the sense of the music with the rustle and the sighs of admiring auditors in his ears? Who can take seriously the artistic pretensions of a creature clad in an amorphous dissonance of color, trailing perhaps a train or manipulating a panel which requires more attention than the placing of the voice or the sense of the song? And who could fail to be cast into receptive mood by the sight of an unobtrusive gown, straight of line, monodic of color?"

"Further, who can sing while acting self-consciously as a dress-maker's model? Bernard Shaw long ago pointed out that the reason there are so many bad actors is that there are so many good tailors. But at least, a man singing in evening clothes is not hampered by the knowledge that every man in the audience is admiring or criticizing his attire. Whereas a woman is lucky if she gasps occasioned by her appearance fade away in time to permit any attention to be paid her songs. Perhaps if the songbirds were once convinced that one doesn't have to be plain to be simple in dress, they would sing better and the rest of us would hear them better."

So that's that.

AUBURN, N. Y., is the latest town to organize a symphony orchestra. Thomas Giannino, a veteran violinist of Auburn, was the principal worker for the organization, and Eduardo Barbieri will conduct. * * * It appears that Ganna Walska will tour the hinterland on her forthcoming visit to America and will not essay New York and Washington. She is reported to have signed with the

ARTISTS who will sing here this week: Above, Hazel Huntington, who appears at the community concert tonight; below, Alfred Cortot, the famous pianist, who plays here Thursday, and Mme. d'Alvarez, the Peruvian prima donna, who will sing here Friday.



Community Music Concert Tonight

THE ninth free concert of the Community Music Association's Sunday night series will be given tonight at Central High Community Center at 8:15 o'clock, with doors opening at seven o'clock.

An elaborate program of community singing will be featured by Cecelia O'Dea and Henry Kaspar, pianists; Elena de Sayn, a violinist of international reputation, and Hazel Huntington, prima donna soprano of "The Impresario" company now touring in Mozart operetta.

Miss Huntington will be heard in the aria, "Ah, Fors e Lui" from Verdi's "La Traviata" and "The Dainty Damosel" by Novello. Helen Burkart will accompany Miss Huntington.

Miss De Sayn's contribution will be Tirindelli's "Mistica" and Vieuxtemps' "Variation on Russian Theme," assisted at the piano by Mrs. Eula Conway.

Miss O'Dea and Mr. Kaspar will appear in "Finale, C minor Concerto" of Plerne and "Shepherds Hey" by Percy Grainger, arranged for two pianos.

Community singing, directed by Robert Lawrence, will be the major part of the evening's program.

Christmas Music Will Be Repeated

BECAUSE of numerous requests, the Christmas musical programs rendered at both services at the Church of the Covenant last Sunday will be repeated today.

The music for the afternoon service, beginning at 3:15 o'clock, is under the direction of Harvey Murray, the organist of the church. The soloists today will be Mrs. Flora McGill Keefe, contralto; Miss Elsa Raner, violin, and Richard Lorberg, cellist.

Beginning at 7:30 o'clock, the evening choir of 100 voices, Claude Robeson, director, assisted by Harvey Murray, organist; Mrs. Howard Blandy, pianist, and the solo quartet—composed of Miss Ruth Peter, soprano; Miss Richie McLean, contralto; Ross Farrar, tenor, and Herman Fakler, bass—will render Christmas carols and solos an hour before the 8 o'clock service.

Choir to Sing in Honor of New Year

Paderewski Music Saves Clemenceau

MUSIC was afforded a conspicuous opportunity to demonstrate its efficacy as a therapeutic agent recently in connection with Georges Clemenceau's strenuous program in this country, and it "made good."

Greatly fatigued by the pace he set for himself during the first few days after his arrival in New York, the eighty-one-year-old French statesman was so near a breakdown that his friends were alarmed, and his physicians ordered him to abandon parts of his program.

That he neither broke down nor cut his program was directly due to the beneficial influence upon him of music. Those near the "Tiger" declared that he was saved by an impromptu concert given specially for him in the Charles Dana Gibson home, where he was staying, by Ignace Jan Paderewski, the great Polish pianist, whose playing he never before had heard.

Hempel Soloist With Orchestra

THE New York Symphony Orchestra, under the distinguished guest conductor, Albert Coates, and with Mme. Frieda Hempel, the famous prima donna, as the soloist will be heard in the fourth concert of this series in the New National Theater, Tuesday afternoon, January 16.

Mr. Coates has provided for his first concert here a program that will feature the Fourth Symphony of Brahms. Other orchestral numbers are "In the Steppes," by Borodine, and the Prelude and Liebestod from Wagner's "Tristan and Isolde."

The portion of the program in which Mme. Hempel will be heard will consist of the Air from Weber's "Der Freyschutz" and a group of songs. These are "Batti, Batti, O Bel Masetto," from Mozart's "Don Giovanni"; "Cradle Song," by Humperdinck, and "Saper Vorreste," from "The Masked Ball," by Verdi.

The New York Symphony Orchestra concerts are under the local management of T. Arthur Smith, Inc., and tickets are on sale at 1306 G street northwest.

Denishawn Dancers

RUTH ST. DENIS, Ted Shawn and the Denishawn Dancers will be presented to Washington's art lovers by T. Arthur Smith, Inc., at the National Theater on Friday afternoon, January 19.

What's Doing In World of Music

Paris made much over Baehlet's Quand la Cloche Sonnera presented for the first time at the Opera Comique.

The Society of American Musicians has arranged a contest in piano, voice and violin, for young American artists.

Davico's new symphonic poem, Polyphemus, was well received when performed by the Boston Symphony.

Mrs. Michael J. Connell, first vice president of the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra, was killed in an automobile accident.

Margaret Matzenauer's new operatic costumes for the Metropolitan were on exhibition last week at the show rooms of Harry Collins Company.

Theodore Spiering was acclaimed by the Berlin press at his recent appearances there as conductor.

The Camp Fire Girls of Minneapolis have honored Galli-Curci by investing her with the rank of Torchbearer.

Alfred Cortot Here In Pianist Series

ALFRED CORTOT, the French pianist who has been pronounced the "poet of the piano," will appear under the local management of T. Arthur Smith, Inc., at the Masonic Auditorium, on Thursday, at 8:15 o'clock, as the third artist in the master pianist series of six Thursday evening concerts. Critics have proclaimed Alfred Cortot one of the greatest pianists now before the public.

Cortot's program will include the following compositions: "Etudes Symphoniques" (Schumann), "Les 24 Preludes" (Chopin), "Etudes en Forme de Valse" (Saint-Saens), "Bouree Pour la Main Gauche Seule" (Saint-Saens), "La Cathedrale Engloutie" (Debussy), "Jeux d'Eau" (Ravel), "Seguidillas," "Albeniz" and "Second Rhapsodie" (Liszt).

Reservations for this recital are obtainable from T. Arthur Smith, Inc., 1306 G street.

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D'Alvarez to Sing Friday Afternoon

MARGUERITE D'ALVAREZ, pronounced by many critics the greatest contralto of modern times, will be heard again in recital at the National Theater, where she was so cordially received last year. She will appear again under the local management of T. Arthur Smith, Inc., on Friday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock.

For Friday afternoon, Mme. D'Alvarez has arranged the following program: "O Dove That 'Flying' (arr. by Schindler), "Nobody Knows de Trouble I've Seen" (arr. by Burleigh), "Caro mio ben" (Giordani), "Yorzeit" (Silbertal), "Transformation" (Watts), "Do Not Go, my Love" (Hageman), "Oh, Men From the Fields" (Hughes), "Come to the Fair" (Martin), "Les Couronnes" (Chausson), "Mai" (Hahn), "De Reve" (Debussy), "Pannye aux Talons d'Or" (Poldowski), and a group of Spanish love songs. Mme. D'Alvarez will be assisted by Lois Maler at the piano.

Tickets may be procured from T. Arthur Smith, Inc., 1306 G street.

Short Story Club to Hear Vocalists

C. A. PENDLETON, baritone, and Frances Shea, soprano, will be heard in a group of songs at the January meeting of the Washington Short Story Club Tuesday evening. Elizabeth Gardner Coombs will accompany.

Mr. Pendleton will sing "Dio Posente" from Faust, "Duna" by McGill and "The Bandoero" by Stewart, while Miss Shea will be heard in "Life is a Song" by Meale and "Snow Fairies" by Forsyth. The club will meet at 522 Sixth street.

Thomas Recital

JOHN CHARLES THOMAS, the American barytone, will be heard in recital at the National Theater on Friday afternoon, January 12, at 4:30 o'clock, under the local management of T. Arthur Smith, Inc.

Tickets for this recital are now on sale by T. Arthur Smith, Inc., 1306 G street.

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Polish Musicians Will Appear Here in Two Concerts

Art Exhibition In Capital Leads To Project.

IN conjunction with the display of Polish arts at the Art Center, 1106 Connecticut avenue northwest, during January, a group of Polish musicians will visit Washington and give two concerts, a preliminary one at the Art Center gallery and a second large one probably at the National or President Theater. The arrangements for the large concert are in charge of T. Arthur Smith, Inc.

Polish music is famous the world over, with Chopin and Paderewski among its great exemplars. Much credit is due the Rev. Father Kneblewski (Prof. W. M. Kneblewski, J. C. L., of the Catholic University staff), for it is due to his interest and effort that this phase of the Polish exposition has been planned.

The artists to appear are Polish, with the exception of Madame Lawinia Darvey, a lyric soprano, well known in Europe, especially Italy and France, who will sing extracts from various operas and for the first time will sing Polish melodies with English text.

John Wolanek, noted violinist, was professor in the music academies of Lemberg and Cracow. He has won favorable criticisms in Paris, Berlin and Warsaw, and is at present touring the United States. His violin is the violin of Maggini, of the year 1650, which he bought from the famous violinist, Kinski, for \$6,000.

The third artist is Boschacki, a pupil of Paderewski. His musical training he received at Paris and Prague. Probably Didur also will appear. He is a well-known singer of the Metropolitan Opera Company, of New York, and has just come from a successful tour of the larger cities of Poland.

Father Kneblewski, who has given so freely of his time and energy to arrange this Polish concert, is from the University of Lublin, the foremost educational institution on the eastern boundary of Poland, midway between Warsaw and Lemberg. Lublin is one of the oldest cities of Poland, and a center of administration, politics and religion. The university is of recent establishment, founded by two Polish patriots, one of whom was a philanthropist, who endowed it freely. It is not supported by the Polish government, but is of the character of the University of Louvain, of Freiburg, or, in the United States, the Catholic University, which last has co-operated in establishing there a substantial library. About 200 volumes were contributed by the Catholic University, and a similar donation has been promised from the Carnegie Institute.

This new university already has a professional staff of sixty, and an enrollment of 1,500 students. For a building, the government gave one of the old monasteries, which had been a military hospital during the war. The university was also much aided by Secretary Hoover's relief committee, besides receiving help from American Polish citizens.

Pupils In Recital.

THE pupils of Miss Dorothee Boucher gave an interesting piano recital Thursday afternoon at their studio. Among the participants were Ruth Warren, Katherine Sanner, Ethel Dodge, Dorothy Bundie, Lucille Roberts, Dorothy Mae Stoutenburgh and Margaret Adele Stoutenburgh.

The Musical Art Club of Charleston, S. C., is the oldest club in that city.

Nina Morgana is touring in concert before resuming her duties at the Metropolitan on January 29.

The Philharmonic Orchestra has begun a series of popular price concerts at City College.

MUCH interest is felt here in the coming recital of John Charles Thomas, who has abandoned the operetta stage for concert work.



JOHN CHARLES THOMAS

Art Museum Gives Symphony Concert Series for Public

Audiences Now Are Often As Large As Hall Can Hold.

OF recent developments in music in America one of the most interesting is the inclusion of orchestral concerts in the work of New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Four years ago the two initial series conducted by David Mannes, one series on Saturday nights in January and the other in March, were given free to any one who might care to enter. With the introduction of these concerts, the Museum extended its activities in the arts and exerted a new and gratifying influence which was not only local, for London's National Gallery has followed New York's example of music in the museum, and gave a first concert last July. At the Metropolitan Museum the audiences have increased from concert to concert until the 10,000 mark, which is the limit set by Director Edward Robinson, has been reached several times. This season the concerts will again be given on Saturday nights in January and March.

Mr. Mannes has gradually raised the standard of the programs presented until today they are as fine as those given at symphony concerts. Last season works played included symphonies by Mozart, Schumann, Beethoven, Brahms, Dvorak and Tchaikovsky. The programs as announced for the January series of this year include the Fifth Symphony of Beethoven, the Fourth of Tchaikovsky, Schubert's "Unfinished," Brahms' Festival Overture and Variations on a Theme by Haydn, symphonic poems by Respighi and De Sabata, a Suite by Bach for strings and solo flute, excerpts from the Wagner operas, suites by Tchaikovsky and Rimsky-Korsakoff and other numbers by Liszt, Chabrier, Saint-Saens, Grieg, Volkmann and Moskowski. An honor recently conferred upon the well-known conductor and violinist was the \$1,000 endowment of an orchestra chair in his name in the Town Hall, New York city's civic forum, by patrons and pupils of his David Mannes Music School and other admirers, in recognition of his many years of public service. Last spring he was decorated by the King of Italy for his services in behalf of Italian music.

Among those who have contributed in former years to make possible the concerts at the Museum are John D. Rockefeller, Jr., Robert W. de Forest, Henry Walters, Michael Friedsam and Edward S. Harkness. Mr. Rockefeller again has contributed toward the concerts of this season and the Juillard Musical Foundation has given \$4,000.

The New York String Quartet was founded three years before giving its first public concert.

The Bluthner Orchestra of Berlin has changed its name to The Berlin Symphony Orchestra.

Cigarette Poster Was Inspiration for Ruth St. Denis

Awoke Interest In the Mysteries of Old Egypt

LUCY PAGE GASTON and other reformers may rail against the cigarette and do their utmost to banish it from the land, but after all it is a benefactor in more ways than one, for it was a poster for a well-known brand of "fags" which first turned the mind of Ruth St. Denis toward the Orient and immediately led to the long list of Egyptian and Indian dances which Miss St. Denis created.

Back in the days when Mrs. Leslie Carter was touring in the Belasco production of "Du Barry," Ruth St. Denis, then a girl in her teens, was playing small parts in the company. One day, in Buffalo, the young actress chanced to pass a drug store where a poster depicting the Egyptian Goddess Isis seated in a niche in a temple, was displayed in the window. The picture made such a deep impression that after she had gone a block or two she sent her companion back to beg a card from the druggist.

At that time the Bernhardt type of heroine dominated the stage, hence the procession of Camilles, Sapphos, Zazas and Du Barrys, surcharged with passion and intrigue.

Against this Ruth St. Denis revolted and the cigarette poster seemed to suggest an avenue of escape. She carried it with her on tour and gazed at it for hours at a time.

"That," she declared, "is what I want to be—not a biting, scratching, evil-motivated woman, but a peaceful yet powerful goddess. I want to be Egypt—not just an Egyptian woman with human emotions and frailties, but Egypt herself."

The railroads have offered reduced fares for the round trip in connection with the meeting of the Music Supervisors' National Conference in Cleveland in April.

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