



Music News and Events



CIVIC OPERA BEGINS MID-HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Repertoire of Exceptional Interest Arranged for Week Beginning November 27

The Chicago Civic Opera's fifth week, in the heart of the mid-holiday period which begins with Sunday, November 27, afternoon's suburban matinee of "Cavalleria Rusticana" and "I Pagliacci," will crowd the operatic calendar with more of those brilliant bills which have made the company's seventeenth season the most sparkling in its history. In the evening following the Sunday afternoon double bill John McCormack will sing his final concert of the year, giving a popular request program. "The Jewels of the Madonna" will be added to the winter's repertoire on Wednesday evening, with Rosa Raisa, Augusta Lenska, Forrest Lamont and Giacomo Rimini in leading roles, and "Linda di Chamounix" is to be revived Saturday afternoon, after 6 years' absence, with Toti Dal Monte, Tito Schipa, Luigi Montesanto, Lorna Doone Jackson, Virgilio Lazzari and Vittorio Trevisan in the stellar cast. Changes of cast will characterize most of next week's repetitions of operas successfully given earlier in the season.

Kargau and Marshall Pair

"Cavalleria Rusticana," to be given for the first time this season at the Sunday matinee, will be paired in the traditional way, with "I Pagliacci," this double bill forming one of the most popular known in opera houses the world over. In the former, Claudia Muzio will be Santuzza, Lorna Doone Jackson, Lola; Antonio Cortis, Turiddu; Desire Deirere, Alfio; and Maria Claessens, the mother. Robert Moranzoni will conduct. For "I Pagliacci" Olga Kargau has been named to repeat her performance of Nedda; Charles Marshall will be Canio, and Robert Ringling, whose recent debut in the part was one of the major events of the season, will be heard once more as Tonio; Henry G. Weber will conduct.

"Loreley," on Monday evening, will be sung by the same cast which brought it into high favor the first week of the season: Claudia Muzio, Eide Norena, Antonio Cortis, Luigi Montesanto and Chase Baromeo, with Giorgio Polacco conducting. The ballet will be seen as part of the spectacular production.

Tuesday's bill of "Snow Maiden" will bring Eide Norena to the title role of Rimsky-Korsakoff's delightful Russian folk-fantasy, and this will be the Norwegian's nightingale's first Chicago performance of that part. Richard Bonelli will be a new Misguir and familiar artists, including Charles Hackett, Lorna Doone Jackson, Irene Pavloska, Augusta Lenska, Maria Claessens, Desire Deirere and Chase Baromeo will sing under Henry G. Weber's leadership. The ballet will dance.

Wednesday's performance of "The Jewels of the Madonna" will have familiar artists in the leading roles Rosa Raisa, Augusta Lenska, Forrest Lamont and Giacomo Rimini have roused many a Chicago audience to volcanic enthusiasm in past seasons' performances of Wolf-Ferrari's gripping drama of life in the Neapolitan underworld. Among the twenty-seven other principals in this performance will be Anna Hamlin, Helen Freund, Lorna Doone Jackson, Jose Mojica, Giovanni Polese and Vittorio Trevisan.

Wallensteins Please in Kenilworth Club Recital

The concert at the Kenilworth club last Friday evening, given by Alfred Wallenstein, cellist, and Virginia Wilson Wallenstein, pianist, was one of rare beauty. The numbers on the program, chosen with splendid taste, furnished an evening's entertainment long to be remembered.

The exquisite tones and vibrant cadences of the 'cello almost made the heart ache, so tender, so appealing, so lovely they were.

Mr. Wallenstein, himself the picture of an artist, with straight, aquiline profile and mobile, sensitive features, gave a fine effect when he played. He has a habit of turning his head slightly to one side as he plays making his audience feel that he is keeping his ear closely tuned to the slightest tone from his instrument, loving it and responding to its every mood. Mrs. Wallenstein, dainty and youthful, gracious in manner, with an unsophisticated and simplicity rarely seen in an artist of such wide experience, was a great asset to the program, her work as accompanist was most perfect. This is a wonderful combination of two great players.

Carlos Salzedo Soloist in Next Symphony Concert

Carlos Salzedo, harpist, will be the soloist with the Little Symphony orchestra, George Dasch, director, in the second current season of New Trier Orchestral association concerts in New Trier auditorium, Monday evening, December 5.

Mr. Salzedo has many times toured in the United States and Europe and has appeared as soloist with all the leading symphony orchestras. As a harpist, his artistry and virtuosity have never been equalled by anyone in any period of history, according to eminent critics.

The afternoon Children's concert will have George Swigart, youthful north shore violinist, as soloist.

GREAT SIGHT READER

Franz Liszt was not only a marvelous talent with a prodigious technique, but he was also a great sight reader of music. He was engaged to play Mendelssohn's G minor Concerto for the piano with orchestra under Mendelssohn's direction. He arrived at Leipzig and as they were about to begin the rehearsal, Liszt said to Mendelssohn that he had not had time to look the concerto over, so begged him to make any suggestions he might find necessary. The concerto went without a slip, Liszt reading at sight.

NEXT ARTIST RECITAL DECEMBER 12

Monday, December 12 is the date of the next Winnetka Music club Artist-Recital, at New Trier auditorium—with Heinrich Schlusnus, baritone, guest artist of the Chicago Civic Opera company, giving the program. This is Mr. Schlusnus' first season in America, but he has made a sensational success since his arrival a few weeks ago. He is a principal in the Royal Opera at Berlin and, while specializing in Italian repertoire, sings with equal ease in English, French, and German compositions ranging from Bach to the moderns. He has a rich lyric voice well suited to recital work for which he is likewise famous.

Soloist



George Swigart, a graduate of New Trier High school and a violinist of exceptional ability, will be the soloist at the afternoon concert for young people which will be given Monday, December 5, by the Little Symphony orchestra in the High school auditorium. Mr. Swigart is best known throughout the north shore through his connection with New Trier orchestra and as a member of the New Trier String trio, the latter composed of himself, his sister, Miss Estelle Swigart, cellist, and Miss Frances Anderson, pianist, all formerly New Trier students. He is at present studying at the Bush Conservatory of Music under Prof. Czerwonky and taking post-graduate work at the high school.

Westminster Choir Tours Through Fourteen States

The Dayton Westminster Choir has opened its sixth annual tour, one which will carry it through fourteen states by the end of February. January and February will find the choir concertizing in Indiana, Illinois, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, Louisiana, Missouri, Georgia, Alabama and the Carolinas. This tour, like those made in the past is being made for the purpose of increasing interest in better choral music. The choir, composed of sixty men and women, the best singers of the two hundred students enrolled in the Westminster School of Music, is the only one of its kind in the country. All of the students are training to become choir leaders and are required to take a three-year course before graduating. The curriculum includes orchestral and chorus conducting, the study of musical instruments, history and analysis of church music, psychology, English hymnology, religious education and voice training.

"THE LAST LAUGH"

When Theodore Thomas wore a wig for the first time at the orchestra rehearsal, he noticed that the men seemed very much amused. So he said: "Laugh all you want to for three minutes, and if any one laughs after that, I will shoot him."

Interpret Masters in Recital Series Beginning Dec. 8

By Walter Spry

The coming series of three recitals to be given by Mrs. Valona Brewer, violinist, and myself (I am a pianist) will be an opportunity for the musical grown-ups and would be musical young people to be guided through the violin and piano music from the earliest writers down to those of the present day.

Mrs. Brewer needs no introduction to north shore people, since her home is in Winnetka and she has been heard in concert and church and has taught in many families. Perhaps it might be added that she stands in very high esteem among Chicago musicians. Only the other day one of them said to me:

"Mrs. Brewer's art is of the finest, and only one in a hundred players exhibits such fine art in the use of the violin bow."

Added to this the musician said:

"She is also very talented mentally, and her interpretations of the great composers are superb."

What an opportunity for the north shore to have such an artist in its midst!

As for myself, I might use a word B. L. T. was fond of and say, "I am the 'w. k.' pianist-teacher of the Columbia School of Music, and visit Winnetka once a week where I dispense my ideas of how to interpret the mass-companiments for Mrs. Brewer at the recitals to young and old alike."

Merle E. Maupin will play the first recital which will take place Thursday evening, December 8, at 8 o'clock in the parlors of the Winnetka Woman's club.

Organists Suggest Ban on Hackneyed Selections

Several organists, choir leaders and orchestral directors in Chicago have agreed to follow the Rev. Paul Linderman's suggestion that a bonfire be built of hackneyed songs used at church weddings, festivals and other celebrations. Among the songs named by the clergyman, who is editor of the American Lutheran, a church publication, are: Oh Promise Me; End of a Perfect Day; and Beautiful Isle of Somewhere. The list prepared by the church organists and leaders includes: Call Me Thine Own; Beloved, It Is Dawn; Because; My Heart at Thy Sweet Voice; and At Dawning.

George Swigart Plays at New Trier Club Meeting

The New Trier Music club met with Miss Ruth Harrison last Tuesday afternoon at her home on Abbottsford road, Kenilworth. George Swigart, a resident of Wilmette, was the soloist artist for the afternoon. Mr. Swigart is a young artist but has already made an excellent impression in the musical world of Chicago and the north shore. Mrs. Howard E. Cotton of the New Trier High school is taking especial interest in the future of this youthful violinist and predicts a wonderful future for him in his chosen profession.

MEETING OLD FRIENDS

Johannes Brahms was noticed at a concert in Vienna to salute every once in a while during the performance of a work by a contemporary composer. Asked why he did this, he said: "I am recognizing some old friends in the musical themes."