

Music News and Events

Unique Recital to Be Given in City by Hindu Dancers

One of the most interesting events next week is the program to be presented by Uday Shan-Kar and his company of Hindu dancers and musicians. They have just introduced themselves to New York and will come to Chicago February 11.

Those who are in a position to know have brought hither the assurance that the Shan-Kar organization is much better in conception and performance than anything one will find even if one makes the trip to India and hunts out the art in its native land. Shan-Kar himself is a high caste Hindu; his company is in considerable part made up of his pupils. His dance partner, called Simkie, but in reality a young French woman named Simone Barbieri, is claimed by him to have attained a perfection which he has not found in the female dancers of his own race.

Gives Variety of Dances

They say that Shan-Kar's hands are marvels of fluency, but lest one should think that Hindu dancing is merely delicate and perhaps effeminate, he comes through with such scenes as a peasant's dance, a group dance in honor of the worship of arms, a devil dance, which are equally marvelous in their stirring vitality.

There are instruments of various kinds, mostly divided into drum and string groups. There are many varieties of drums; in fact, a musician may surround himself with eight or sixteen of them, all tuned to different notes. The strings are headed by the vina, and those who heard Ratan Devi will remember this enormous instrument of the lute variety, with a neck so long that only the open strings could be plucked. It created a curious bass hum, with overtones emerging and dying out, while the singer's voice embroidered elaborate runs and melodic devices above.

Product of the Ages

All this has come down from the ages, worked into the conventions and refinements of hundreds and thousands of years. Similarly, the music is equally ancient. It is so different from anything of the west that it is quite certain to give a shock to the person hearing it the first time.

The principal point about Hindu music is that the idea of harmony has been left out of it altogether. It is only melody and rhythm.

Iturbi and McCormack in February Concerts

Two famous artists will give Chicago recitals on the first two Sunday afternoons of February; Jose Iturbi, pianist, and John McCormack, tenor.

Sunday afternoon, February 5, Jose Iturbi, popular Spanish pianist, who made his first appearance in Chicago some three years ago, will give a piano recital. Mr. Iturbi, a native of Valencia, first came to the states in 1929, at which time he played with the Chicago symphony under the direction of Dr. Stock. Since that time he has appeared with all the major symphony orchestras and has given hundreds of recitals throughout the country.

On the following Sunday afternoon, the ever-popular John McCormack appears in recital. It was some twenty-six years ago that Mr.

C. A. C. Glee Club Coming to Wilmette

One of the coming concerts of interest on the north shore is that to be given Friday evening, February 17, by the Glee club of the Chicago Association of Commerce with Sonia Sharnova, famous mezzo-soprano, as guest soloist. The program is being given under the auspices of the Woman's club of Wilmette and will be held in the auditorium of the club house, Tenth street and Greenleaf avenue.

Mme. Sharnova is a former Civic opera star. She was born in Chicago of Russian parents, and has sung with notable success in Europe as well as in America. She is popular for her beauty, her charming personality, as well as for her splendid voice.

Arthur Dunham, who has been conductor of the Glee club for many years, has long been identified with American musical activities and has attained a brilliant reputation as a virtuoso organist and a fine musician. He has been soloist with the Chicago Symphony orchestra and was conductor of the Boston English Opera company. He has composed various works in large form for orchestra, chorus, organ, etc. He is known as the finest organ artist in America.

The Glee club gives praiseworthy concerts every year and among the artists who have appeared with it as soloists are Galli-Curci, Titta Ruffo, Florence Macbeth, and Mary Garden. The club was organized in 1912 and a number of its charter members are still singing members. Its president is Frederick Budinger of Wilmette, one of the founders of the organization.

North Shore Singer Plans Debut Tuesday

On Tuesday evening, February 7, there will be a concert at Kimball hall of interest to north shore people. Isabel Zehr, contralto, of Glencoe (Mrs. Ores E. Zehr) and Walter Spry, pianist will appear in a joint recital. This will be Mrs. Zehr's first formal appearance although she is in constant demand as guest artist on programs on the north shore as well as in Chicago. Edith Barnes (Mrs. William H. Barnes) of Evanston will be Mrs. Zehr's accompanist. The program is as follows:

Polonaise in E minor	MacDowell
Adagio Espressivo (Romanza)	from the Sonata, opus 21. MacFadyen
Rhapsody, opus 79, No. 2	Brahms
Walter Spry	
Schmerzen	Wagner
In der Fruhe	Hugo Wolf
Das Staendchen	Hugo Wolf
Tanzlied	Richard Trunk
Schnitterlied	Richard Trunk
Isabel Zehr	
Mazurka, opus 33, No. 4	Chopin
Notturmo in F sharp	Respighi
Daughters of the Northern Lights	
It's Snowing and Snowing	
Suite Fairyland	Hurum
Hurum is a modern Norwegian composer of the Impressionist school.	
Rakoczy March	Liszt
Walter Spry	
The Land of Silence	Quilter
The Little Bells of Sevilla	Samuels
Sleep with a Silver Spinning Wheel (Mss.)	Chamberlain
Dedicated to Isabel Zehr	
You are the Tide	Snodgrass
Isabel Zehr	

McCormack entered a Dublin singing contest, with Hamilton Harty as his accompanist. Since that time he has become the world's best known and best loved tenor.

American Pianist to Be Symphony Soloist

The Chicago Symphony orchestra, under the direction of Frederick Stock, this week presents an American pianist, Rudolph Reuter, as soloist. This will be Mr. Reuter's fifth appearance at the regular Thursday-Friday subscription concerts. He first played in 1913 and more recently in 1925.

A native of New York, Mr. Reuter studied with Carl Roeder there, prior to going to Berlin for further study. He made his debut in Hamburg and has done much concert work in this country and abroad. For three years he worked under the direction of the Japanese government in Tokyo. Brought to Chicago by the late Dr. Ziegfeld, Mr. Reuter has long been a resident of Chicago.

At the Friday concert the soloist will play Dieter's Concerto for Piano and Orchestra and the Liszt-Busoni Spanish Rhapsody. Mr. Stock has also programed Sinigaglia's Overture, "le Baruffe Chiozette," Dvorak's Symphony No. 2 in D minor, and Ibert's "Ports of Call."

Young Baritone in Recital Friday

William Blailock, talented young American baritone, will give his Chicago debut recital in Kimball hall, Friday evening, February 3 at 8:15. Isaac Van Grove will accompany.

Mr. Blailock, the son of a Baptist minister, comes from Memphis, Tenn., where three years ago—Richard Bonnell and Rosa Raisa, then traveling with the Civic opera, heard him and recommended his coming to Chicago where he studied with Francesco Daddi. Shortly afterwards Isaac Van Grove discovered him, and Mr. Blailock has since been his student.

Mr. Blailock is an excellent example of the young American artist—for besides working hard to cultivate his fine baritone voice he has worked on construction gangs, played professional football, and ushered in music halls where he now holds forth in Orchestra hall as "assistant in charge of service."

Ticket reservations may be made with Miss M. A. Melville, 1022 Greenwood avenue, Wilmette. Mr. Blailock will give the following program:

Bois Epais	Lully
Amarilli, Mia Bella	Guilio Caccini
I'll Sail Upon the Dog-Star	Henry Purcell
Young Man, Chieftain	
Treat Me Nice	John Alden Carpenter
The Cryin' Blues	John Alden Carpenter
Jazz Boys	John Alden Carpenter
I Duo Tarli	R. Zandonia
Gebet	Joseph Marx
Romanza Di Cascare, from Zazi	Leoncavallo
Dawn Awakes	Robert Braine
When I Think Upon the Maidens	Michael Head
By a Lonely Forest	
Pathway	Chas. T. Griffiths
Home on the Range	David Guion
The Sleigh	Richard Kountz

PLAYING MOZART QUARTET

The George Dasch Ensemble at the Chicago Art institute next Sunday afternoon will play a Mozart quartet and a D Minor quartet by York Bowen. Arthur Kraft, tenor, will be soloist.

Sixteen-Year-Old Violinist Will Play in Recital Feb. 10

Guila Bustabo, sixteen-year-old violinist, "wonderchild," said to be in the same class with Menuhin and Ricci, will appear at Orchestra hall on Friday evening, February 10. Despite her youth, this child prodigy has been soloist with the Chicago Symphony orchestra and the Philharmonic symphony of New York.

Born in Manitowoc, Wis., Guila has spent most of her short life in Chicago. Her parents are both musicians. Guila's father was her first violin teacher. It was he who first taught Guila, devising a system to interest her when a mere child of two, after she had shown interest whenever she heard music. She learned the four strings of the violin by means of color. Notes were taught in similar manner, and in six months she was able to read music.

Makes Debut at Three

A miniature violin was especially made for the infant, and at three she made her professional debut and had a repertoire which included Elgar's "Salut d'Amour" and had memorized all the melodies of the "Bohemian Girl."

When she was four and a half, her father believed it would be wiser to have another teacher for her, so she was placed under the instruction of Ray Huntington, assistant to Leon Sametini, who later undertook the direction of her studies. When at three years of age, Guila played Mendelssohn's "Spring Song" to the accompaniment of members of the Chicago Symphony orchestra at a concert at the Blackstone theater. She immediately became an object of interest to musical Chicago.

Edison Symphony Soloist

At six she was soloist with the Edison Symphony orchestra, playing Vieuxtemps' "Ballade and Polonaise" and two years later she made an appearance before the "make America musical" convention of the music trades in Chicago, also playing many other engagements.

Boy Singers of Vienna on First American Tour

Wiener Saengerknaben, which translated from the German means "the singing boys of Vienna," are on their first American tour and are giving a concert at Orchestra hall on the evening of Saturday, February 4, at 8:15 o'clock.

It is one of the most beloved musical organizations in Europe, for the boys are not only fine little singers and actors but their organization has a rich tradition of musical history.

By imperial decree the Saengerknaben was founded by Emperor Maximilian in the year 1498 as an adjunct to the famous Court orchestra in Vienna. By the middle of the seventeenth century their enlarged their talent to include opera. It was with the Saengerknaben that Haydn, Mozart, Schubert, and many other famous musicians received much of their musical training.

The repertoire of the Saengerknaben includes many charming operas, church choruses, national choruses, and Christmas songs.

Tickets for the concert may be obtained at Lyon and Healy's in Evanston.