

CONCERT

LOS ALAMOS SINFONIETTA

FRANK W. PINKERTON

CONDUCTOR

PRESENTING

EMILY PARKER,

PIANO SOLOIST

CIVIC AUDITORIUM

LOS ALAMOS, NEW MEXICO

February 18, 1958

8:00 P.M.

Program

Overture to Russlan and Ludmilla ----- Michael Ivanovitch Glinka
(1803-1857)

Glinka is credited with the founding of the Russian school of opera. Russlan and Ludmilla is based on Poushkin's poem of the same name. It's evolution was slow and severely taxed the composer at a time of failing health and domestic trouble. When it failed to evoke the enthusiastic acceptance that his first opera, Life of the Czar, had achieved, the composer was moved to seek new fields of musical interest by travel in Spain and France where he spent much of his remaining life.

Symphony in C Major ----- Georges Bizet
(1838-1875)

Allegro Vivo
Adagio
Scherzo; allegro vivace
Allegro Vivace

One can say that Bizet's fame rests upon three works: His opera Carmen, the music for Daudet's melodrama L'Arlesienne, and the Symphony in C Major. It is surprising indeed that the Symphony was composed in 1855 when the composer was only seventeen. It demonstrates, nevertheless, the melodic elegance and the brilliant orchestration so familiar to the audiences who love to hear Carmen.



INTERMISSION



Hungarian Fantasy ----- Franz Liszt
(1811-1886)

EMILY PARKER, PIANO SOLOIST

Franz Liszt is probably the most enigmatic and controversial figure in musical history. Many critics accuse him of being musically shallow, of writing potboilers. Yet others are willing to overlook his musical shortcomings and recognize that by his compositions he elevated the piano to an unrivalled status as a solo instrument. The Hungarian Fantasy, based on the themes of the Fourteenth Hungarian Rhapsody, is a fine example of his style.

Toccatà ----- Girolamo Frescobaldi
(1583-1643)

Frescobaldi was the most distinguished organist of the seventeenth century. When only twenty-five he was appointed organist of St. Peter's in Rome, a post which he held with one interruption until his death. The Toccata performed today, believed to be spurious by some musical authorities, may be one of the many he composed for organ. Whatever its source, this piece was arranged for orchestral performance by Hans Kindler.

Finlandia ----- Jean Sibelius
(1865-1957)

Contrary to popular opinion Finlandia is not a fantasy on Finnish folk music, but is composed of themes of Sibelius' own invention. It was composed in 1894 and first heard in America in 1905 at the Metropolitan Opera House on a special concert. It is interesting to note that during the struggle for Finnish independence from Russia, performances were prohibited by the Czarist authorities who in it shrewdly sensed a rallying cry for revolution.

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