

Detective Sergeants J. Deaville and R. Rimmer of the S.M.P., who are leaving to join H.M. Forces shortly, were entertained by colleagues at a tiffin at the Palace last Sunday. [World.]



Messrs. F. Adler, J. Kraus and E. Krasso who will give a charity concert at the Lyceum on November 25. [Willinger.]



Miss Miriam Magasi, who will give a charity concert at the Lyceum Theatre on November 25 in aid of the European Emigrants. [Joseph.]



FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1941

Piano Recital by Miriam Magasi

In aid of European Jewish Refugees Miriam Magasi arranged a concert on Tuesday at the Lyceum, where she proved worthy in a triple way, as soloist, chamber musician and accompanist. As a pianist she played a toccata and fugue by Bach technically well, but the sound of the organ was not always to be heard, specially the echo-effects. The young pianist, being thoroughly musical, should use the pedal more economically in Chopin's Sonata in B minor. Here also her well cultivated sparking technique delighted, whereas the spiritual contents were not perfectly worked out. She played in a cool and clear manner. The enthusiastic sentiment of Chopin's soul was only hinted.

Let us praise immediately the heart-felt interpretation of Schubert's Piano-Trio in B flat major, opus 99. Here she could confide her instincts to her fellow players. The violinist, Ferdinand Adler, knows the secrets of Schubert's world of sounds. His noble tone, his animated rhythm combined in excellent manner with Miriam Magasi's girlish feeling and the flourishing cello-song of Johann Kraus. Her Schubert has given the cello an especially grateful task. So the performance was perfectly focused on the singing happiness of Vienna. In every single movement the prince of songs distributes melodies and dances with princely liberality, in every bar the blue flower of romanticism flourishes. And when during cautious and timid rendering not all the flowers of Schubert's miracle garden could unfold to full splendour and fragrance, nevertheless the performance was an excellent treat.

Ill-advised Vocalist

For the vocal part of the concert Ernest Krasso was not well-advised when fixing a whole series of Hugo Wolf's songs on his programme, which like "Weyles Gesang" and "Verborgenheit" (Secrecy)—are specially apt for lower timbres. Moreover Krasso was hindered by an indisposition. The voice of a singer is nothing else but a very sensitive instrument, on which every tone should be made to sound at any time. The keyboard of Krasso's voice seems to function only heavily—specially higher registers—apart from the strange timber that probably can be improved. Technical help would do much good to a sympathetic singer, who knows how to execute sympathetically.

The audience thanked him as well as all co-operating artists with enthusiastic applause.—E.F.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1941

Concert

A Charity Concert under the patronage of the "Committee for the Assistance of European Jewish Refugees in Shanghai", generously supported by Mr. M. Speelman and Mr. Ellis Hayim, was held at the Lyceum on Tuesday.

Opening the concert, was the young pianist, Miriam Magasi. Though handicapped by an insufficient instrument, Miss Magasi gave an excellent rendering of "Toccata and Fugue" for the organ by Bach (transcribed for piano). Her touch is energetic but still gentle and her performance refined and pleasing. She is a young but very promising pianist artist. Together with Ferdinand Adler (violin) and Johann Kraus (cello) Miss Magasi performed the "Trio in B flat major" opus 99, by Schubert.

It does not seem a good idea to play Chamber music in a large auditorium like the Lyceum, for Chamber music requires a smaller crowd specially interested in this style of music. But still we have to give credit to Mr. Adler and Mr. Kraus, who both gave fine performances. Chamber music did not seem to be Miss Magasi's strongest point.

In conclusion, we heard Mr. Krasso (tenor) who gave seven songs by H. Wolf. He was very ably accompanied by Miss Magasi. Apart from his badly chosen programme, Mr. Krasso's voice and rendering need some good and proper polish.

The whole concert was under the management of Dr. Kuthner, a newcomer in Shanghai's music circles.—S.B.