

Anglo French Art Centre

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UNIONE TICINESE — Tea Dance held at Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, on Sunday, 19th May, 1946.

Over 500 members and their friends, attended the Thé Dansant which took place at the Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, on Sunday, 19th May, 1946.

Dancing started soon after 4 o'clock to the strains of the excellent Spitfire Radio Band, and the dance floor was crowded, whilst valse followed fox-trot, intermingled with tangos and rumbas, until late in the evening when it finished in a veritable blaze of revelry with the popular Oki-Koki, the Palais Glide and Knees-up Mother Brown which drew all, young and old, to the dance floor.

During the intervals entertainment was provided by the following artistes.

Thomas Piateck the well-known Polish Bass gave a fine rendering of four songs, Frondi Tenere, Trees, Danny Boy and Sunshine of your Smile. He was accompanied at the piano by Madame Shemonowitch.

Then that popular entertainer Sydney de Hemsey, "the Twirp of Magic" kept the whole audience spellbound with his conjuring tricks, and fully deserved the enthusiastic applause he received.

The feature of the evening was the Corale of the Unione Ticinese, in their gaily coloured ticinesi costumes. This time they gave us some new numbers, recently sent over from the Ticino, and amongst these "La Bella Versaschina," "La Filovia de Malvaia" and "Le Zoccolette" sent our thoughts chasing to the other side of the St. Gotthard, and revived nostalgic memories of our sunlit valleys, "Le Feste della Vendemmia" and the "Tic Toe Tac" of the "zoccolette" on our cobbled village lanes. The Corale then sang the "Tango della Rose" and the applause which followed showed how much the audience liked this well-known, and ever popular number. Then to show us their versatility the Corale finished with an operatic Medley, and all too soon came their signature tune "Ciao, Ciao, Ciao" to tell us that their performance was over.

We wish to congratulate Mr. Carlo Valchera, their conductor, who we know, has spared no time or effort to train the Corale, and whilst he would be the first to agree that the continued success of the Corale is also due to the co-operation he receives from its members, we know that it is largely due to his leadership and training. Thank you Corale and thank you Carlo, and may you lead them to greater achievements!

Madame Pappacini, accompanied at the piano by Miss Jo. Bass, delighted everybody with that ever popular "Toselli's Serenade" and an "Irish Lullaby" which was taken up by the whole audience in community singing.

To end the Cabaret, Edward Palmowski, Polish operatic tenor, accompanied by Madame Shemonowitch, sang "Arise o Sun," "Ay, Ay, Ay," and then to everybody's delight gave us "La Donna é mobile".

Mr. Cesare Ferrari, the President of the Unione Ticinese, in a few well chosen words thanked the members and their friends for supporting the Society. All too soon 10 o'clock sounded and dancing came to an end, and it can truly be said that a good time was had by one and all.

Many thanks to the Entertainment Committee of the Unione Ticinese and their active and enterprising chief Mr. Carlo Berti, for a wonderful evening's enjoyment.
P. de M.

ANGLO FRENCH ART CENTRE.

An attractive place of pilgrimage for true lovers of art has just been opened in a little side-street of St. John's Wood: the Anglo French Art Centre, 29, Elm Tree Road, N.W.8. Quite apart from the general interest such an event would no doubt evoke in the Swiss Colony, we hope and believe that it may also acquire a special significance for Swiss art, justifying a short mention and eulogy of the enterprise in the columns of the Swiss Observer. For the founders, sole proprietors and managers of the magnificent studio devoted to this noble purpose, Mr. Green, the English painter, and Madame Green, his French-born wife, are definitely intending to bring Swiss artists across the Channel and provide them with a suitable platform in London. They are hoping for instance to get the famous Vaudois painter Auberjénois over here, if his shyness of exhibitions and publicity can be overcome. Possibly also Bosshard. The inimitable cabaret pair Gille et Edith from the Coup de Soleil at Lausanne is definitely scheduled to make their appearance at the Anglo French Art Centre this summer, towards the end of June and in September the Swiss pianist Maurice Perrin is expected to give a recital.

The opening show of the Anglo-French Art Centre is devoted to that ancient master of the modernist Paris school of painting of the twenties and thirties between the wars: André Lhote, whose name is reverently coupled with those of Matisse and Picasso by connoisseurs. They are not everybody's taste and André Lhote himself must surely be counted amongst the problem painters who, like problem children, evoke much interest among the experts but fail to please the simpler folk. All the same, he had much influence on the younger generation of whom he taught so many at his own school in Paris. One of his former pupils, Mimi Fogt is actually exhibiting at the present time of all places at Brown's Hotel in London. She combines freshness of conception, naturalness of approach and charm of feeling with an acutely analytical mind and Lothe's influence may easily be discerned. The second method of painting in which Lothe's influence may easily be discerned. The second exhibition at the Anglo-French Art Centre will be devoted to Bernard Lorjou.

Dr. E.

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