

Hedy Salquin Recital

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HEDY SALQUIN RECITAL.

The young Swiss pianist, Mlle. Hedy Salquin, who gave a recital at the Berkeley Arms Restaurant, Cranford (Middlesex), on Sunday, October 16th, before a select audience, which included the Swiss Minister, Monsieur Armin Daeniker, and numbered about a hundred, promises to do great credit both to her art and to her country.

Though very well known on the continent, not only as a pianist, but also as a conductor, she had not played in England before. That she is a finished technician might have been taken for granted, though people have been known to appear before a London audience insufficiently equipped; what is more important is, that she possesses fine musicianship as well as mechanical gifts, in short she is a first class pianist, a first class musician, and a first class artiste.

That Mlle. Salquin has a fund of poetic imagination was obvious from her perfect playing of such things as the Impromptu B flat major by Schubert. Her rendering of J. S. Bach's Partita in B flat Major was quite outstanding.

Her playing of Brahm's 3 Fantasias from op. 116, and Rhapsody in E flat Major, was clean and observant, her fingerwork was always brilliant, her phrasing was intelligently musical, her tone was never harsh, and her memory was remarkably reliable.

Much enjoyed was Beethoven's Sonata in F sharp Major op. 78.

If there are any faults to find, it was perhaps that the musical fare was somewhat on the heavy side, considering that the recital was preceded by a sumptuous, excellent and "prolonged" dinner, for which the *cuisine* of the Berkeley Arms Restaurant deserves great credit.

To digest a five course dinner, as well as a heavy musical fare, is too much of a good thing, and puts any audience under great strain, in fact the second part of the programme, which included works from Swiss composers, such as A. Honegger, Willy Burkhart and Othmar Schoeck, had to be abandoned owing to the lateness of the hour, the first part of the programme finishing only shortly after 11 p.m., but these are small faults to find.

All those who attended this musical evening at Cranford, left these hospitable quarters with the feeling of having spent a most enjoyable evening, for which the organiser, Mr. Charles Bertschi, is to be warmly congratulated.

We sincerely hope that this young and charming artiste, will give us an opportunity of hearing her in one of the concert halls in the Metropolis where, we are convinced, she will meet with great success.

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