QUEST

By FRANK COLAPINTO

At both concerts last week there were encores.

Encores are the final brush strokes that make evenings of music perfect in form, integrated in content, veritable paintings of reverence, the supreme value of art.

Only Toscanini and the like shun encores.

Only the Boston Symphony and the like shun encores.

But vaudeville and burlesque honor encores.

Let there be encores.

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Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, Jose Iturbi, conducting; with Argentinita, Pilar Lopez, Federico Rey, dancers, and Carlos Montoya, guitarist; Thursday evening, Jan. 15, 1942; at Eastman Theatre under auspices Rochester Civic Music Association. Program:

J. Rodrigo, "Villancico," I. Albeniz, "Seguidillas," danced by Pilar Lopez and Federico Rey; Albeniz, "Triana," danced by Argentinita; E. L. Chavarri, "Estival," T. Breton, Mazurka from "La Verbena de la Paloma," Argentinita; E. Granados, "Spanish Dance," L. Navarro, "Castilian Dance," Argentinita, Lopez, Rey; Rimsky-Korsakov, "Capriccio Espagnol," all dancers; three gypsy dances with guitar, "Farruca," Lopez, "Zambrilla," Argentinita, "Bulerias," all dancers; San Juan, "Llamerina Negra," suite; "El Huayno," Peruvian ritual dance of Incas, orchestral arrangement by F. Reinisch, Argentinita and Lopez; Ravel, "Bolero," all dancers.

Here is a program of beauty and wonder given with precision, brilliance and grace. Argentinita and Iturbi are patrician interpreters of Iberian values. More than radiance and rhapsody, loneliness and sorrow mark the music of Spain. In Spain, said Cervantes, the newborn babe comes dancing forth from the womb. But the babe grew to weep.

Argentinita is a true Spanish dancer symbolizing matriarchal power, fertility and fulfillment. She dances with a ritualistic intensity that even in moments of ecstasy preserves the core of dignity. The slow movements of her dancing, the walking phrases, have the languor of Andalusian nights heavy with jasmines amid palms.

She can with castenets be incisive and savage as minor seconds, vehement as accented off beats. She can be piquant. She can evoke the essence of the Spanish dance and so of the Spanish soul. Her partner, Pilar Lopez, is a personality expressive of the caressing rhythms, the supple and insinuating themes of the Bulerias. In the dancing of diminutive Federico Rey the cross rhythms and unexpected changes characteristic of Sevillan music are exact and clear.

The string music of Rodrigo, an exile from the Hitler New Order, is beautiful with intimate lyricism. How Iturbi must rejoice in the friendship of Chavarri, whose "Estival" has the light of the evening field in it!

This program is provocative. Iturbi could have done better than play the Capriccio Espagnol of Rimsky Korsakov and the Bolero of Ravel. These are familiar items, neither of which deeply sounds the Spanish soul. Rimsky Korsakov himself said his work was external. The Bolero has little in common with the Spanish dance of that name, although its unitonal intensity and rhythmic persistence are Spanish traits. Iturbi might have done the Espana of Chabrier, the Iberia of Debussy. Dear Iturbi, please do the second movement of the Debussy String Quartet, which Falla said was "one of the finest Andalusian dances ever written," and let Argentinita dance. Please do the Spanish Rhapsody of Ravel. These works give Spain.

So do the dresses of Argentinita and Lopez give Spain, those voluminous and unrevealing dresses that preserve inviolate the mystery of woman. Their colors are Goyesque, and recall the Madrid of bullfighters and blind beggars, of cradle virtuosi and composers lofty as the Pyrenees.

* * *

Budapest String Quartet, Josef Roismann, first violin; Alexander Schneider, second violin; Boris Kroyt, viola; Mischa Schneider, violoncello. Tuesday evening, Jan. 13, 1942. Kilbourn Hall. Program:

Haydn, Quartet in D minor, Opus 76, No. 2; Ravel, Quartet in F major; Beethoven, Quartet in E flat major, Opus 74.

Ravel rests easily with Haydn and Beethoven. Is the andante of the Haydn quartet beautiful the way andantes of Schubert and Beethoven are beautiful? Ravel, nevertheless, has written music of similar potency. Master of the miniature, here in this brief song Ravel exquisitely confesses his soul. I have seen the sharp contours and highlights of Aroostook summers. I find the same clarity and infinite precision in this music. A great and gracious nature takes you into his heart.

The Budapest String Quartet played as expected, with dynamic precision and sensitive phrasing.

Map Plans For President's Ball

The Committee for the celebration of the President's Birthday for the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, Inc., Monroe Chapter, Inc., are making great strides in their annual Dime Drive and preparations for the President's Diamond Jubilee Birthday Ball, June 30.

On Friday evening at the Hotel Seneca the local committee are arranging the dance, with Mrs. George C. Schlegel, General Chairman, Mrs. James P. Rush, vice-chairman, Roy F. Bush, Honorary Chairman and John W. Jardine, Treasurer.

Norbert Klem and His Melody Lane Orchestra will furnish the music. Tickets are $1.10 per couple and may be purchased at Committee Headquarters, Room 216, Hotel Seneca, where also may be secured march of dime cards to fill and also banks, as well as pins may be purchased. Mrs. Schlegel, chairman, states that as in previous years, proceeds will be evenly divided with the National Foundation and the Rochester organization. Rochester contributed $2,000 to the National organization last year and it is worth noting that three times that figure was returned by the headquarters to the University of Rochester to insure a continuation of the notable work that the medical school has done here in research work on prevention and causes and treatment of Infantile Paralysis. University of Rochester School of Medicine has received a grant totaling over $17,000.

Sauerkraut Supper Listed At St. Philip Neri Hall

A sauerkraut supper will be held in conjunction with a penny bazaar on Saturday, Jan. 24 at 5 o'clock by the Men's Club of St. Philip Neri parish.

It will be held in the parish hall, 1200 N Goodman St.

All friends of the parish are invited to attend as all plans are now complete to insure a good time for all.

Assisting as hostesses will be Mrs. Edward Nagel, Mrs. Joseph Reif, Mrs. Richard Kassman, Mrs. Louis J. Kuhn, Mrs. Joseph Kaittle and Mrs. Anthony Dunst.

Niagara Professor's Final Rites Held

NIAGARA UNIVERSITY, N. Y. —Last rites of the Church were conducted Jan. 20 for the Rev. Harry T. Deegan, C.M., M.A., professor of social sciences at Niagara University.

Celebrating the solemn requiem Mass in the college chapel on the university campus was a classmate of Father Deegan's, the Rev. Mark Mullin, C.M., Ph. D., assistant to the rector of Our Lady of Angels Seminary at the university. The final absolution was given by the Very Rev. William M. Slattery, C.M., S.T.D., provincial of the Vincential Fathers in the Eastern province. Burial was made in the university cemetery on Lewiston Road adjacent to the campus.

JUST, CHARITABLE PEACE IMPOSSIBLE IF AXIS WINS

RENO, Nev. — (NC) — An Axis victory will make considerations of charity and justice at the peace tables impossible, the Most Rev. Thomas K. Gorman, Bishop of Reno, declared here over Station KOH.

The Bishop urged Nevada Catholics to maintain the Catholic tradition of bravery, coolness, and willingness to make sacrifices in times of crisis.

Eastman School Little Symphony of Phi Mu Alpha, Frederick Fennell, Conductor; Monday evening, Jan. 19, 1942; Kilbourn Hall. Program:

Mozart, Overture, "The Abduction from the Seraglio;" Purcell, Lament for Dido from Dido and Aeneas, arranged by Bernard Rogers; Haydn, Symphony No. 102 in B flat major; Cadman, American Suite consisting of Negro and Indian Suites; Taylor, Excerpts from "Through the Looking Glass;" Griffes, The White Peacock; Powell, Natchez on the Hill.

"From the looks of the house, Fred Fennell is harvesting followers."

My neighbor spoke criticism. An honest musician, Fennell works hard. His technic is sound and thorough. This young man has talent for conducting. Let him ripen, so notes will have more authority of life. This is my confidence and my prayer.

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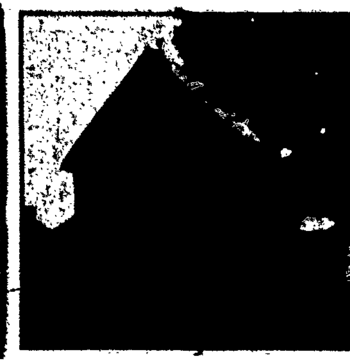

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