

QUEST

By FRANK COLAPINTO

My children, I must tell you tonight about a hawk and a singer, the war they made and the wreck of the world they tried to save.

The hawk stood before the doors of the temple selling books and shouting incessantly the praises of the singer.

Patrons seated themselves for an evening of poetry their ears ringing with cash registers.

Later the singer and hawk met.

"I found my people vastly troubled tonight," she said. "Because you about my praise you are my foe. You teach my people life is making money when life is making music."

"I about to sell, and sell to live," he said. "Money, not music, makes the world go round."

"It is the way we live that we think as we do," she said. "Death has taken to packs in the sea, patterns in the sky, and swarms in the earth because our hearts are sick with hunger. Please listen, put your books away, let me sing."

He listened, and his heart changed, and he went among a hungry people teaching the sustenance of beauty.

But he, like his sons, summoned to war, died in a world mad with mechanized barbarism.

And the singer, alone, and afraid of all her sorrows, still sang, teaching the sanity of beauty.

Marion Anderson in recital Friday evening, Jan. 23, 1942. Her program included: "America, Mother of Music Association Program."

Group I: "Hallel, Ah, spinto" - aria from "Armide"; "Benedict, Tanta comperero J. S. Bach All is Fulfilled"; "Scarlatti, Rusticella, Olorosa"; "Group 2: Brahms, Sing a Song"; "Schubert, Die Forelle"; "Brahms, Die Scherz die Perl an Perle"; "Brahms, Scherz dich"; "Group 3: Gounod, Cinq Man, from 'Nuit resplendissante'; "Group IV: Gretchaninoff, The Death of Gretchaninoff"; "Brahms, The Death of Gretchaninoff"; "Brahms, The Death of Gretchaninoff"; "The First Bachmanoff"; "Group V: Negro Folk Songs: 'I Want Jesus to Walk With Me' (Bostner arrangement); 'Let Us Break Bread Together' (Lorraine arrangement); 'Hard Trials' (Burdick arrangement); 'Joshua Fit de Battle of Jericho' (Brown arrangement); 'Frasca Rupp at piano.

Because Marion Anderson is a true artist, she is a tuning bar of the times. Because the times are what they are, she sang with a weariness of spirit, and a sorrow bravely borne. How else may one interpret the poor voice of her first group? Not she, but the world she lives in, is in poor voice. It only because true artists live intimately with moral essences, and reflect their state and temper, we should all try to live better, critical not only of our leaders but of ourselves. In one song, and that significantly 'All is Fulfilled', from the St. John Passion of Bach, did she seem to escape this orbit of huge evil, and sing as in days of peace, with a calm and certain splendor. So does the free spirit triumph over tyranny, and integrity like Arctic wind scatter the fog and filthy air.

It must have been the beneficent pathos of that aria in E minor, Molto Adagio (All is fulfilled, O rest for afflicted spirits, This night of woe makes me upon my last hour ponder) that put Miss Anderson in good voice again. If there were carpenters in Congress, farmers in chairs of philosophy, and poets as the impresarios of the people, this world would be in good voice again. Miss Anderson sang Brahms the way seas take the sun: the notes shone like whitecaps, and the phrasing made the same sense waves do when they break.

It was in Bach and Brahms, not in Negro folk songs, that Miss Anderson was at her best. This is so because the folk songs were mediocre. What a pity William Grant Still does not know Miss Anderson. Somebody should bring them together. He could write lovely songs for her. In Bach and Brahms she went to the core, having, like all great spirits, instinct that divines the good, and dedication to music. It is this fixt and selfless love that faithfully evokes the measure of master souls. Marion Anderson would grow a good field of potatoes. The stones would all be picked. She would overcome the rust and rot of leaves. She would have leaves like the faces of fighter pilots. She would have blossoms phrasing Nature. And she would harvest songs to satisfy hunger. Statuesque she stood, a force of Nature.

While London burned, young Roger Quilter composed another setting of Shakespeare's O Mistress Mine. Where Are You Rearing? that was superior. This Miss Anderson sang so truly all of us realized why there will always be an England.

Holy Rosary Parish ROSARIANS SET MEETING

Regular monthly gathering of the Rosarians will be opened with services in Holy Rosary Church on Monday evening, Feb. 2.

A business session and an entertainment program will follow with Mrs. Frank Reif as chairman, assisted by the following hostesses:

Chairman, Mrs. Dewey Lurch, Mrs. C. Coleman, Mrs. J. Flaherty, Mrs. Ruth Heorating, Mrs. B. Meyering, Mrs. Agnes Paakall, Mrs. Emery Pixley and Mrs. Elmer Schubert.

A Red Cross unit has been formed by the Rosarians which meets every Wednesday at 9 A. M. All are invited to attend.

St. Joseph's Parish ARCHCONFRATERNITY

The members of the Archconfraternity of the Holy Family, Single Women, will receive Holy Communion in a body on Sunday, Feb. 7, at the 7:30 Mass. Breakfast will be served immediately after in the School Hall, after which the Rev. Frances Dotzler, C.S.S.R., Spiritual Director, will conduct a conference.

The Society will hold their annual dinner on Monday evening, Feb. 9, in the School Hall and reservations for this dinner are to be made on Sunday if possible so as to be able to make the proper arrangements.

Miss Ada Meng is Chairman and will be assisted by a committee appointed by her. Marie Mayer, President, extends a cordial welcome to all members and hopes to see a large attendance at the conference and dinner.

The Committee in charge of the Communion breakfast will be Elizabeth Fisher, Mary Hynes, Evelyn Cassidy and Florence Lehr.

Two Priests Ordained In Ukrainian Rite

PHILADELPHIA — Solemn ordination to the Holy Priesthood by the Most Rev. Constantine Bohachevsky, Ukrainian Greek Catholic Bishop of the United States of the Rev. Basil Sberemeta, Syracuse, and the Rev. Bohdan Olesh of Philadelphia, Pa. took place here on the Feast of St. Basil—New Year's day according to the Julian calendar.

The ordination ceremony took place according to the Byzantine rite in the newly decorated Cathedral.

Assisting the Bishop were two Redemptorist priests of the Byzantine rite, and in the sanctuary were members of the diocesan clergy and religious of the Holy Ghost congregation, the Friars of Atonement, and Friars Minor.

Father Sberemeta finished his preparatory studies at the Ukrainian Catholic Junior seminary, Stamford, Conn., in 1934, and then went to St. Joseph's seminary, Rome. Forced by the war to return to the U. S. in 1940, he completed his studies at St. Mary's seminary, Baltimore, and the Catholic University of America, Washington, D. C.

Father Olesh also finished his preparatory studies at Stamford, and was sent from there to the Ruthenian Senior seminary in Stanislawow, Poland. He was there when the Russians invaded the country.

Stranded there for a year and a half, he witnessed the horrors of war and famine, the deportation of the inhabitants, and the persecution of the Catholic clergy under the Russian regime.

He returned to the U. S. by making a long trip across Siberia, through Japan, and across the Pacific ocean to California, and then by train to his own home in Philadelphia. He went as soon as possible to St. Mary's in Baltimore, and finished his studies this year at the Catholic university in Washington.

NEW MARYKNOLL HOUSE

Chicago—The Maryknoll Fathers have opened a house to serve as the residence for preparatory students who will attend Quigley Preparatory Seminary, two blocks away. The Rev. Clarence Burns, M.M., and Brother Malachi are in charge of the new project.

The Rachmaninoff songs impressed with elegant lyricism. The Gounod and Gretchaninoff items were sentimental rubbish.

There were no program notes, nor opus numbers.

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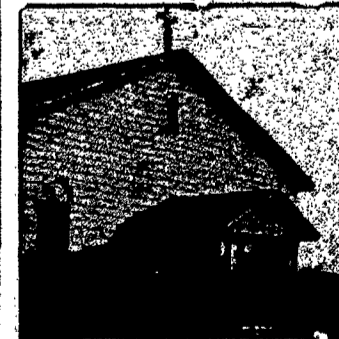
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