

MARCEL DUPRE PLAYS THE WANAMAKER ORGAN

Organist of Notre Dame Creates Excellent Impression at First American Concert

Marcel Dupre, organist of Notre Dame Cathedral, Paris, played his first American concert on the great organ at the Wanamaker store last evening. His appearance had aroused much interest, and the huge auditorium was crowded with organists and music lovers anxious to hear one of the most famous of French contemporary organists. Dupre in his program confined himself to three of the greatest compositions for the organ which have ever lived. Bach's "Four French and Widor" are thoroughly representative of a different period and of a different school of organ playing and composition. Of these he played two selections, the "Gloria" and the "Toccata" in D major, one of his early works, and the sonata in E flat, written originally for harpsichord with pedals and interpreted by M. Dupre chord effect in the first movement. César Franck was represented by the "Minor" and "Widor" by the well-known toccata from the fifth symphony of the organ.

The soloist's performance of Bach was especially French, taking all the allegro at a very rapid tempo and with little of the solemnity of feeling which characterizes virtually all the works of the great German master. His last French playing was in the slow movement and the finale of the sonata. The Franck number was very delicately performed and the Widor toccata was a masterpiece of organ playing, the character of the work seeming to fit exactly that of the performer. At the close M. Dupre gave a very clever set of improvisations in the form of a symphony in four movements, on themes selected from a number contributed by six well-known Philadelphia musicians. Those sending in themes were Leopold Stokowski, S. Wesley Sears, organist of St. Ann's; Charles M. Quinn, guest soloist of the Wanamaker organ; Henry S. Fry, organist of St. Clement's; Rolla F. Mattland, organist of the Church of the New Jerusalem; and Dr. M. E. Ward, president of the American Organ Players' Club.

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SAN CARLO PERFORMS "LA FORZA DEL DESTINO"

Bianca Saroya, a Philadelphia Girl, Makes Successful Debut

V Verdi's comparatively unfamiliar but beautiful "La Forza del Destino" was given at the Metropolitan Opera House last evening by the San Carlo Grand Opera Company. The interest in the performance naturally centered about Bianca Saroya in the role of Donna Leonora. There was an unusually large audience present, and the performance, like those which preceded it, was admirable.

This show of appreciation was most marked as to the work of Miss Saroya, who has a voice of great range, of fine quality in the entire register and personally she fitted the part to perfection. Few in the large audience were aware of the fact that they were witnessing the debut of a young Philadelphia girl, Anna Weisshar, who made her first appearance in opera in this city with the Philadelphia Operatic Society some years ago in Weber's "Der Freischutz," under the late Sigfried Behren's direction, singing the role of Anna. Since her professional operatic debut

as Bianca Saroya, the singer has had much experience, both in this country and abroad, having attained considerable popularity in Italy, where she sang several seasons. Her singing of the familiar aria in the second act, the concert scene, was a fine piece of coloratura work, for which she was given full recognition.

This act was especially well done in its entirety, and the chorus work of the monks was well carried out in their fine modulation and care in tonal emphasis. The rollicking scene at the inn was also admirably done, and gave Ada Paggi a fine opportunity to display a voice of fine contralto quality, which brought to her applause second only to that received by Miss Saroya. Tommasini as Don Alvaro and Joseph Royer as Don Carlos repeated their success of previous performances, and Natalie Corei was effective as Padre Guardiano. Puccini's "Butterfly" will be sung this evening.

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