

THE CRITIC TALKS TO MUSIC LOVERS

THE Russian Opera Company, which has been appearing in this city during the present week has given Philadelphia the opportunity to hear a kind of music, and above all, to experience an atmosphere which is entirely new to the city's music-lover.

But after seeing the Russian Opera Company the person becomes more fully understanding of the Russian national character, which is perhaps more individual than that of any other country. They are the finest when the subject deals with legends and legends, but a kind of opera requires a company with the traditions of the country born and bred within its members; it is not a thing to be acquired by another.

But the Russian opera is a much bigger thing than is generally supposed outside of Muscovy itself. It is comparatively recent, starting with Glinka, with whom the modern Russian music really began. His first opera, "A Life for the Tsar," was an immediate success, but his second, "Ruslan and Ludmila," did not become popular in his lifetime.

However, it was in these works that the typical Russian musical character was first used in operatic form and the effect of these operas upon the succeeding generations of Russian composers has been very great. In fact, it has been apparent in every Russian composer until the time when some of the present-day Russians adopted musical Bolshevism as their creed.

Close associated with Glinka was Dargomijsky, whose finest opera, "Rusalka," had its Philadelphia premiere, at least so far as the present movement of operatic music is concerned, Wednesday evening, Dargomijsky was a little younger than Glinka, but between the two, they sum up the entire national character in their music. Glinka had the versatility and spontaneity usually associated with the folk character and Dargomijsky, while perhaps no less spontaneous, was more reflective and his music is generally dramatic where that of Glinka is lyrical. Like Glinka, Dargomijsky was destined never to hear his finest opera acclaimed according to its merits.

STAGE AND SCREEN

Miss Elsie Ferguson, star of "The Varying Shore," now playing at the Broad Street Theatre, declares she will hereafter divide her time between the stage and screen.

"Worthwhile plays," says Miss Ferguson, "are scarce, because dramatists prefer to write for the box-office. I am keenly interested in the artistic possibilities of the screen. In pictures one can bring out all the poetry, the imagery, the lights and shades of character and emotion in a way that combines the genius of the great writer and the master poet. That is, if you can find a picture director capable of doing it."

"However, the picture producers apparently prefer to make a number of poor pictures than take the necessary time to create one good one. I believe, though, that some of them are beginning to see the folly of their ways. "So far as physical comfort is concerned, I prefer acting on the stage. It is my first love, and I expect it will be my last one. While the pictures fascinate me with their possibilities, their art and beauty, they do not give to the player as does the stage. I cannot make a successful actor or actress, and I am not sure that I am not doing so."

Mind Reader at Keith's Hope Eden, billed as the "Miracle Girl," who is one of the features on the bill at B. F. Keith's Theatre next week, gives a demonstration of mind-reading. Her ability, she claims, is nothing unusual or uncanny, and she is content to pick up messages out of the air without the use of wires. Ever since she was five years old Miss Eden has attracted the attention of scientists and mental experts by her ability to submit to rigorous tests on her unusual mind-reading power. She answers any questions put to her by the audience.

Musical Club to Hold May Day The Matinee Musical Club will hold its annual May Day fete Thursday, May 18, at the Bellevue-Stratford. The attractions will be varied and numerous, including a fashion show, vaudeville, dancing, cards and fortune telling. Mrs. W. E. Keese is chairman of the committee in charge. The proceeds are given to the Music League of Philadelphia.

Radio Travesty at Dumont's "Have You a Little Radio in Your Home?" is the name of the new travesty which will be presented at Dumont's next week. This burlesque number will describe the trials and tribulations of the amateur builders of radio sets, and the cast of favorites will extract all the fun possible from the subject. Emmett J. Welch will sing some new ballads; Jennie, Pinkie and Fuzzie Franklin will present a revue called "Home From the Opera" and the olio will contain several features.

Tom Burke in Recital Tom Burke, the Irish vocalist, will be heard in a benefit recital at the Academy of Music May 18, under the auspices of Cardinal Dougherty, for the proposed industrial school of the Catholic Home at Twenty-ninth street and Allegheny avenue.

ONE WEEK BEGINNING MONDAY, MAY 8 OLD SHOW GROUNDS, 10TH STREET AND HUNTING PARK AVE. RINGLING BROS. COMBINED BARNUM & BAILEY THE WORLDS LARGEST AMUSEMENT

700 ARENIC MARVELS 1500 PEOPLE 6 HERDS OF PERFORMING ELEPHANTS SCORES OF BIG NEW FOREIGN ACTS 100 CLOWNS AUGMENTED BY EUROPE'S GREATEST WILD ANIMAL DISPLAYS AND CONTINENTAL HORSE SHOWS MORE THAN 200 TRAINED EQUINES

BROADWAY BROAD & SNYDER AVE. COMMENCING MONDAY—INAUGURAL OF STOCK SEASON BROADWAY STOCK COMPANY With EDNA HIBBARD and LEON GORDON IN J. HARTLEY MANNING'S PEG O' MY HEART THE PLAY WHICH MADE LAURETTE TAYLOR FAMOUS POPULAR PRICES PREVAIL

WALTON ROOF 5 BIG ACTS HOLMES & LE VERE BERT WALTON THALER'S CIRCUS SHIELDS & KANE FRANCIS ROBERTS TRIO CONSTANCE TALMADGE IN FIRST PHILA. SHOWING "WOMAN'S PLACE" Hill (changed Thursday)

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A PHILADELPHIA INSTITUTION B.F. KEITH'S Chestnut Below 12th Street

Table listing musical acts and times for B.F. Keith's Theatre. Includes acts like 'AFROPS' FABLES AND TOPICS OF THE DAY', 'BLACK & WHITE', 'AL-MARKEEL & GAY', 'BEAUMONT SISTERS & CO.', 'BEATRICE K. EATON', 'FRESKOTT HOPE EDEN', 'JOE DARCEY', 'ANATOL FRIEDLAND', 'BILLY WAYNE & WARREN', 'KAY, HAMLIN & KAY', 'EXIT MARCH'.

DIRECTION MAURICE E. FELT ALDINE CHESTNUT AT 10TH STREET CONTINUOUS 11 A.M. TO 11 P.M.

MISS BLYTHE WILL APPEAR IN PERSON DAILY AT 8 & 10 P.M. IN TWENTY MINUTES OF SCENE AND MERRIMENT MAY 10 "THE ROSARY" BERNARD MCGONVILLE'S PICTORIZATION OF EDWARD ROSE'S DRAMA

CROSS KEYS 60th Street and Market COMMENCING MONDAY EVENING—INAUGURAL OF SUPPLEMENTAL SEASON OF SPOKEN PLAYS BY MAE DESMOND AND HER PLAYERS

"TWIN BEDS" POPULAR PRICES PREVAIL—RESERVATIONS IN ADVANCE Matinees Wed. & Sat., 2:15—25c & 50c. Nights at 8:15—35c, 55c, 75c. TAX INCLUDED.

GRAND STRAND GERMANTOWN AVE. and VENANGO ALL NEXT WEEK

GLORIA SWANSON IN HER LATEST FEATURE "HER HUSBAND'S \$ TRADE MARK" \$ A picture that peers deeply into human hearts and unfolds a wonderful drama made from the joys and sorrows of ordinary life.

69 ST. THEATRE OPPOSITE TERMINAL YOU CAN PARK HERE

Agnes Ayres & Jack Holt "BOUGHT & PAID FOR" A Domestic Drama with a Real Romantic Appeal

Nixon 520 B. MARKET ST. ALL-STAR 5 VOD-VIL ACTS 5

Leader 61st & Lancaster Ave. 2:30 to 4:30, 7 to 11 Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday Norma Talmadge in "POPPY" Thursday, Friday & Saturday Wallace Reid, "THE CHAMPION"

FORREST RUSSIAN GRAND OPERA

ONLY PHILADELPHIA APPEARANCE LADY ASTOR M. Under the Auspices of the National Women's Trade Union League. ACADEMY OF MUSIC Monday, May 1st, 3:30 P.M. Tickets Now at De-Lacy & House's

ACADEMY OF MUSIC TUESDAY EVENING, MAY 9TH The Choral Art Society of Phila. H. ALEXANDER MATTHEWS, Conductor Soloist: BACHAUS, Pianist Tickets at House's, 1119 Chestnut St.

STANLEY THE GOOD PROVIDER Directed by FRANK BORZAGE Story by FANNIE HURST WITH VERA GORDON DORE DAVIDSON

STANTON SIXTEENTH AND MARKET COMMENCING MONDAY—ANNIVERSARY WEEK ELLIOTT DEXTER GRAND LARCENY CLAIRE WINDSOR IN THE CAST May 8 First Time at Popular Prices D. W. Griffith's "Orphans of the Storm"

Karlton BROAD CHESTNUT NEXT WEEK—FIRST PRESENTATION JACK HOLT THE GRIM COMEDIAN By RITA WEIMAN A fascinating story of nights behind the scenes in a Broadway theatre.

PALACE 10TH AND MARKET 10 A.M. TO 11:15 P.M. MONDAY—FIRST PRESENTATION PRISCILLA BEAN WILD HONEY IN HER CROWNING SUCCESS A STUNNING PICTORIZATION OF FROM THE WORLD-FAMOUS NOVEL BY CYNTHIA STOCKLEY

VICTORIA NINTH AND MARKET 11:15 P.M. TO 11:45 P.M. NEXT WEEK "The Queen of the Artists Studio" Audrey Munson "Heedless Moths" The picture that tells a life story of the courageous young girl in her brilliant rise to fame and fortune.

ALLEGHENY FRANKFORD AND ALLEGHENY NEXT WEEK VAUDEVILLE AND A PARAMOUNT PICTURE BETTY COMPTON and Cleo Ridgely in "The LAW and THE WOMAN" FROM CLYDE FITCH'S "THE WOMAN IN THE CASE" GLOBE JUNIOR AND MARKET VAUDEVILLE—11 TO 11 NEXT WEEK MINSTREL FIRST PART DE LUXE JOSIE FLYNN AND MINSTREL MISSES SECOND AND FINAL WEEK DEMPSEY-CARPENTIER FIGHT PICTURES FIRST PENNSYLVANIA SHOWING REGENT SEVENTEENTH & MARKET ANITA STEWART "SOWING THE SEED"