



Nojima: Music 'a living being'

By LEAH ROZEN
Collegian Staff Writer

Pianist Minoru Nojima looked tired.

He had just finished playing Prokofiev's "Piano Concerto No. 2 in G minor, op. 16" with the New Japan Philharmonic at their Friday night concert in the University Auditorium.

Nojima is a small man, very slight. He looks young and his moderately long, dark curly hair only adds to his youthful appearance. After finishing his final bow he removed his performance coat backstage and loosened the small white bow tie he wore.

"I don't know how to describe" the Prokofiev piece, he said. "It is so difficult to put into words the music."

Nojima said Prokofiev wrote the concerto when he was very young and that "everything is in this concerto," including, "the special quality of Prokofiev you can find later in his development."

"I feel like he wanted to say very many things, he wanted to put everything in the piece," Nojima said. "Sometimes it is very confusing and it's very difficult to play. You must express many fantasies."

He said he liked the piece

because it was written by a young and very honest composer.

Asked if there was a difference between the composer's idea of a piece and his own expression of it, Nojima said, "Ideally it must be the same because I believe the piece has only one spirit."

He said when he plays a piece, "Somehow, I feel the piece is living, truly a human being."

Nojima said that the main problem when he was touring was finding time to practice. He said that ideally he would like to be able to practice about six or seven hours a day.

Nojima said that he had spent six or seven hours on the bus from New York City the day of the concert. This made it hard to play, he said.

He said that when one plays the same piece many times, it is "hard to keep the freshness of the mind about the piece."

Asked which he preferred, playing with an orchestra or by himself, he said that he would choose the solo recital situation.

"In the recital, you can express yourself," he said. "It's totally your art. I think piano, the instrument, can stand by itself."

Dutch convicts free 3

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP) — Four armed convicts freed three hostages from a Dutch prison chapel yesterday, but held 19 others to exchange for a jailed Palestinian guerrilla.

They also demanded to talk with the ambassador or consul of an Arab country.

Dutch authorities said the gunmen must release two more women and three children they are still holding before detailed negotiations can start. A Justice Ministry spokesman said: "There is no concrete evidence pointing to the early release of the hostages."

Interior Minister Willem de Gay Fortman said that if the four demanded safe passage out of the country he could not envisage the government complying.

He said the takeover is being treated as a prison disturbance "and we are handling it as such."

The convicts include a Palestinian who helped the jailed guerrilla hijack a plane last March, divert it to Amsterdam and set it ablaze. He and the others took control of the chapel Saturday evening during a Roman Catholic Mass.

It was the second guerrilla siege in the Hague in six weeks.

The convicts seized women and children in

the volunteer choir, a priest, two wardens, and an unidentified man. The man, a woman and her 9-year-old daughter were freed unharmed yesterday morning, but no explanation was given for their release.

Nine prisoners in the chapel were allowed to return to their cells immediately after the takeover and told prison officials the gunmen had at least two revolvers.

Police kept in touch with the gunmen through walkie-talkies the convicts took from the wardens, and said the hostages were being treated well and were in good condition.

A police spokesman said sandwiches, milk and coffee were taken to the chapel just before noon, and "the situation is calm." He said candy, lemonade and three decks of cards were delivered later in the afternoon.

Outside the prison, police threw up road blocks and patrolled in jeeps. Inside the complex, however, police were unarmed to avoid antagonizing the gunmen.

Informants said the prison chapel stands in the center of the complex beside a gymnasium and is connected to other areas by long hallways.

The prison is a vast complex of buildings about a mile from the North Sea and surrounded by a 20-foot-high wall.

Pianist Nojima MINORA NOJIMA, pianist for the New Japan Philharmonic Orchestra, raps on orchestra and his music.

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