

ALBERTA'S ROLE in Canada'S ENERGY FUTURE

PANELISTS

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AND

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PLACE

HUMANITIES LECTURE THEATRE 1

TUESDAY, NOV. 25 • 12:30 PM

Co-Sponsored By The U of A NDP and Students' Union

Arrau Excellent

by Theresa West

Claudio Arrau's second concert as a featured artist with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra was held on Saturday night in the Jubilee Auditorium. The evening marked my introduction to both Arrau and the Edmonton Symphony. Arrau was brilliant but the orchestra was disappointing.

Schumann's Symphony No. 2 in C Major was the first item on the program, and although Yuval Zaliouk worked the orchestra hard, the end result lacked spontaneity and cohesiveness. The brass sounded uncertain in tone and the strings lacked the excitement the piece demands. Particularly disappointing was slow-paced third movement. A promise of "maximum emotional effect" in the program notes was not achieved.

The second half of the program was more pleasing. Arrau was mentioned recently in *Newsweek* as one of the world's greatest living pianists and seemed to imbue the orchestra with some of his own magic. He played the Brahm's D Minor Piano Concerto, a solemn majestic work, with sensitivity, grandeur, and exhilaration. The orchestra seemed carried away on the excitement and energy he generated, although the tone was still at times ragged. But the delight of Arrau's brilliance easily overshadowed the orchestra's lapses.

Arrau's mastery of the keyboard made this a memorable concert. It is a pity that his accomplishment and energy was not returned by the orchestra.

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