

Dawes a virtuoso Artist on Violin Technique Praised in Two Concerts

By CHRIS STEVENSON

To many people a violin concert must have seemed more esoteric than Jeunesses Musicales' previous piano recital by Jablonski. This was a mistake, for such people sadly underestimated the musicianship of JMC prize-winner Andrew Dawes and deprived themselves of a stimulating evening. After a brief introduction, Dawes played a delightful Tartini sonata, beautifully contrasted in tone and volume. His Canzona was characterized by melodic tone and firm rhythm; the Second Movement by virtuosic chords and double stops; and the Rondo by controlled spiccato bowing.

MUSICAL FINESSE

Somewhat to my disgust Dawes skipped the Bach, Mozart and Beethoven listed on the program for the Brahms Sonata No. 3. Disappointed as I was in the sudden transition from classical to romantic, I nevertheless admired the violinist's precision and musical finesse. Moreover, I found the relation between violin and piano not only balanced but also perfectly complemented to the violin tone; especially lyrical, warm and rich in the lower strings. Dawes' attacks were incisive, although often guttural, and his contrasts were again beautifully controlled. Adaskin's Sonatina Barocue was the first of a series of modern works in the second half of the program. Even to those for whom classical music represents the ultimate in musical achievement, and ought not to be debased with modern devices, the sonatina was undeniably well executed. Not only was Dawes' command of the instrument worthy of praise, but also his lively interpretation.

Perhaps the most brilliant presentation of the concert was Szymanowski's Nocturne and Tarentella. In spite of the harsh, weird

harmony Dawes succeeded in making a rather thin melody sing rather than scream, underscoring with bright pizzicato and clean harmonics.

SOMEWHAT SLUSHY

Since the program had been shortened by the exclusion of its three greatest composers, there was sufficient time for two encores. Wienawski's "Romance" from his Second Concerto was somewhat slushy. Nevertheless, Dawes produced a sultry tone appropriate to the spaghetti-and-wine atmosphere, ending with the inevitable ascending scale and high sweet sustained note.

Happily the final encore revealed the best of Dawes' technical achievement in William Kroll's Banjo and Fiddle. Difficult, scintillating, rapid pizzicato alternated with occasional gentle melodies, brightened by Dawes' remarkably sure intonation.

Although there is every reason to admire the technical command Dawes has acquired, I quarrel with his choice of suitable vehicles. Tartini and Brahms require a broader musicianship which I would have been glad to hear in the rest of the performance, in works more solid and less sensational.

HALIFAX SYMPHONY

Later in the week I had the opportunity to hear Dawes in his appearance with the Halifax Symphony. Handel's Concerto Grosso in B Minor opened the program, a charming work despite the orchestra's lack of cohesion. The harpsichord, played by Maitland Farmer, contrasted delightfully with the richness of the strings.

Dawes in the Mozart A Major Concerto was handicapped by hopelessly stumbling accompaniment. The orchestra seemed unable to listen to itself in relation to the solo instrument, spoiling a

sensitive interpretation with heavy brasses and blurring winds.

The orchestra redeemed itself, however, with the opening notes of the Beethoven First Symphony. By this time brasses and winds were in tune with the strings, and each section had turned into a cohesive unit. I was progressively happy with the development and unity revealed in the four movements, only wishing that the orchestra could have accompanied Andrew Dawes in the Mozart with equal grace.

On the whole I was more impressed by the enthusiasm of Andrew Dawes and his sister in the Jeunesses Musicales concert than by the more hardened approach of the Halifax Symphony, which only rarely attains the level of musicianship shown in the Beethoven. Students might do well to realize that the comparative informality of Jeunesses Musicales concerts in no way lessens their musical excellence.

WUS Student Panic-Stricken

VANCOUVER (CUP) A Polish student, at UBC on a World University Service exchange scholarship bolted for home during the Cuban crisis.

Dr. Andrej Szujecki, 28, doing research with the UBS department of zoology flew to Poland Oct. 25.

Dr. Szujecki is one of the two students from behind the Iron Curtain now studying at UBC. This is the first exchange with communist bloc countries.

Local WUS chairman, Wendy Moir, said Szujecki planned to leave Canada anyway but demanded to leave immediately when the Cuban crisis broke out.

"Szujecki said something to one of his friends that would indicate he had been told to return by the Polish government," Dr. Kenneth Graham, Szujecki's partner said.

The other WUS exchange scholar at UBC is a 30-year-old Russian, Nyuri Rigin, who is studying Canadian economic problems.

U of T Library Gets Millionth

TORONTO (CUP) — A \$5,000 manuscript on a little-known facet of Canada's early history has become the one millionth volume in the University of Toronto's central library.

The university has another 890,000 in various libraries scattered across the campus and in affiliated colleges.

The Toronto library is followed in size by McGill, Laval and UBC, a story in the U of T student newspaper says. The Toronto library is among the top dozen in size in North America. It is, however, still a long way behind the Harvard library system which holds more than 7 million volumes.



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CAROLYN MCGARVIE, crowned Dent Queen last Friday at the Dental Ball. Carolyn, a first year Dental Hygiene student, hails from Fredericton, N. B., and is active in the campus Figure Skating club. Miss McGarvie will represent the Dent School in the Campus Queen competition in the new year. (Photo by Purdy)

Cup Comments

By Ed Schwartzberg — CUP Editor



Toronto's University Avenue subway was opened by U of T's "Skulemen" (sometimes known as Engineers) when Terry Spratt, alias John F. Kennedy, arrived at the partially completed entrance at University and College Streets. Escorted by the "Lady Godiva Memorial Band" Spratt, midst waving flags, shouts and strains of the "Star Spangled Banner," stepped from a taxi onto a hastily constructed platform. His address to the crowd was delivered in an unmistakable Boston accent.

"... My fellow No'th Americans. It is always a pleasure to come no'th of the unguaded frontier. We, in the United States of America, feel a close comradeship... uh... friendship with the citizens of Canada."

The opening preceded a ten-minute speech enumerating the defects of the Toronto subway construction.

"When one gazes upon all this tiled magnificence," Spratt said, "it becomes clear that this pinnacle of engineering achievement could only have been made possible by the cooperation of the engineering Society of the University of Toronto, one of North America's foremost consultants in bathroom design."

The stunt, aimed at attracting publicity for the Skule's annual "Cannon Ball," drew a large crowd of onlookers.

NEW PRINCIPAL

Dr. Harold Rocke Robertson, Surgeon-in-chief at Montreal's General Hospital, has been named as McGill University's new principal.

He succeeds retiring principal, F. Cyril James. Dr. Robertson was selected from more than 100 candidates for the position. He is a former professor of surgery and Acting Dean of Medicine at UBC, and is the first McGill graduate to become its principal.

ANTI-SEMITISM

"Anti-Semitism is a systematic disorder of the Christian world, and is very prominent in any intellectual activity," stated Charles Angoff, well-known author, editor, and professor at New York University in an address at McGill's Hillel House.

"Anti-semitism is as old as Christianity, and is deeply ingrained in the New Testament and the Christian fathers," he said. St. Gregory said of the Jews, "They are adversaries of God, show contempt for the law, are slanderers and haters of justice," and St. John, he pointed out, considered the synagogue worse than a brothel, a temple of demons devoted to an idolatrous cult. This attitude has seeped into the feelings and emotions of all Christian people, Angoff continued, and the tradition of Jews as Christ-killers and whoremongers was supported by Pope Pius V.

The English always depicted the Jews as devils, he stated. Chaucer used the image of a "Christ-killer" in the Prioress' tale, which intensified the atmosphere of anti-Semitism. Shakespeare pictured Shylock as a no-good usurer, and in contrast he showed Jessica as very sympathetic with the Christians. He was ignorant when it came to Jews, Angoff maintained, but it is not to be blamed because he was just following the climate of opinion that had existed for centuries.

Prof. Angoff then analyzed the more recent authors. T. S. Eliot wrote fine poems of Anglican theologies, he said, but in "Gerontion," Eliot says the Jews are vultures staring at grapes. He was stupid, Angoff claimed, because he couldn't rid himself of his biased opinions.

Angoff then pointed out that the stream of Anti-Semitism is still flowing but it is getting thinner.

"The light is now beginning to be visible. We should give those people who show this intelligence an extra push in this right direction."

LETTERS

Sir:
On behalf of the Engineers, I should like to step out of the sanction of my cave for a moment to draw attention to an error which appeared in your publication of November 28th, 1962.

In the front page story "Engineers delay Gazette, annual caper successful", you stated, and I quote, "Copies were available for circulation Saturday morning". Assuming your interpretation of morning to be that period between sunrise and noon, I should like to inform you that the Gazettes were not ready for circulation until 2:15 Saturday afternoon. I believe a call to your printer will certify this.

I might also add that we were a little disappointed in the general disinterest shown by the Gazette staff toward their beloved publication. Rumours had even reached us to the effect that "the Engineers were out to get the Gazette", yet

the complete lack of planning and co-ordination on behalf of the Gazette staff made the acquisition of the papers, as per usual, rather rudimentary.

Perhaps we'll have a little more competition next year. Our technique is, as yet, far from perfect.

Yours truly,
Tom O'Flaherty,

Secretary-Treasurer,
Dalhousie Engineering Society.

Hearken all ye students and forget not Ye Olde Medical Balle to be held Friday, December 7 in the Commonwealth Room of the Nova Scotian Hotel. Knight in Shining Armour will grace the proceedings with his presence.

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