

1980th Concert

October 28, 1990

SHURA CHERKASSKY, *pianist*

PROGRAM

Franz Schubert ..... Four Impromptus, Opus 90  
(1797-1828) D. 899 (1827)

No. 1 in C Minor  
No. 2 in E-flat Major  
No. 3 in G-flat Major  
No. 4 in A-flat Major

Frédéric Chopin ..... Ballade No. 1 in G Minor  
(1810-1849) Opus 23 (1836)

INTERMISSION  
(*Twelve minutes*)

Alexander Scriabin ..... Sonata No. 4 in F-sharp Minor  
(1872-1915) Opus 30 (1903)

Andante  
Prestissimo volante

Franz Liszt ..... Venezia e Napoli  
(1811-1886) (1840)

Gondoliera  
Canzone  
Tarantella

*Mr. Cherkassky appears by arrangement with Harold Shaw  
Steinway Piano*

Odessa-born SHURA CHERKASSKY is among the last of the post-Romantic tradition of masterpianists. As a youth, he immigrated to the United States, where he studied in Philadelphia with the renowned Josef Hoffman, himself a pupil of Anton Rubenstein. His debut concert tour took place in 1923, and included appearances in New York with Walter Damrosch and the New York Symphony and in Washington at the Harding White House.

Shura Cherkassky has enjoyed enormous popularity in Germany and Austria ever since his first major European tour in 1946. His subsequent European tours spread his fame to Scandinavia and the Mediterranean countries, as well. He is a regular performer at the major European music festivals and at summer festivals here in the United States at Meadow Brook, Ravinia, Caramoor and Newport, as well as the University of Maryland Piano Festival. He has made several tours of the Far East, including China, Hong Kong, Singapore, Thailand and Japan, where he is invited to return on an annual basis, and such far corners of the musical world as Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and India. He was able to return to his native Russia to give concerts in 1976, an event of great emotional significance and public acclaim, and has returned twice more, most recently in 1987.

In June 1988, Shura Cherkassky was one of twenty-five Steinway artists invited to participate in the historic Carnegie Hall concert and telecast celebrating the 135th anniversary of Steinway & Sons and the creation of its 500,000th piano. He has been honored also by New York's 92nd Street YM-YWHA by the establishment at that institution of the "Shura Cherkassky Recital Award." The award, in the form of a recital in the Y's internationally recognized concert series, is to be given each year to a young pianist of exceptional and individual talent.

An ardent traveler, Cherkassky is on the road even during his holidays, visiting such far-flung places as Afghanistan, Thailand, the Greek Islands, Kenya, Madagascar, the South Pacific and Siberia.

Shura Cherkassky records for Nimbus, Deutsche Grammophon, Decca, Vox and HMV Records.