Spanish Pianist, Noted Polish Pianist, Who Returns to America After Twelve Years' Absence—Attired as a "Toreador" in the Field, Declares Arthur Rubinstein

Polish Pianist, Having convinced us along experience in Spain and after an absence of some thirteen years.

matured artist, is partly responsible for turning for the thousands of young men asked to give twenty-three, and subsequently played some 146 times in Spain in the next two seasons.

"The concerts took me throughout Spain, enabling me to see much of the wealth and culture of the great cities of Spain, of course, are extremely musical, showing an extreme culture in their choice. In Madrid and Barcelona music is constantly heard, the former city with its 700,000 inhabitants supporting some three orchestras constantly.

In the smaller towns of Spain, however, not many occasions arose from which, and in many of these I gave the first piano recital that had ever been played there. I remember one to which I appeared an amusing story is told of a famous artist who was making a tour in Spain and was given an invitation to play. The owner of the theater was the same man who owned the arena, but apparently they were not speaking the same language, and the owner of the arena gave me the key to the piano, and the concert began. The next day I found waiting to give several concerts there, and in some cities it was the first time it was given. I had the honor of playing it on the Island of Majorca for Mrs. Albéniz and her daughter, and they seemed very much affected, telling me it reminded them of their father. There is another Spanish composer, however, that has never, I believe, been heard here—Manuel de Falla. At present he is in Paris, and formerly he studied with Debussy. With me I have brought some of his manuscripts. One of them, for orchestra and piano, is an exquisite thing entitled 'Nocturnes in the Gardens of Spain.'

"The last time I was here, in 1906, I was a very young boy and probably very stupid. It was my first tour. I had gone to Paris, and from there to study its social advantages rather than to do serious work, when my manager closed the contract for me to make an American tour. Even this time, I must say my coming was rather unexpected. I had been making a nine-months' tour through South America. As mails and transportation are extremely difficult, owing to the war and various other causes, I had not heard from my manager since May.

"In the meantime I toured Brazil, Chile, Argentina and the other South American countries. This was my second tour there in two seasons. I gave a great number of concerts, giving as many as fifteen in one month in the Municipal in Rio. Of course this was something of an undertaking, especially as in South America a concert is considered a real function. The women like to come in their best, and the programs must be long, with many encores, and so the fare lasts until about 12:30. There is such glorification, however, in playing for the South American audiences, as one finds them extremely enthusiastic.

"After this tour I came up to Havanna to give several concerts there, and to the city I found waiting for me many messages. Among them was one from Mr. Johnston, my manager, saying that he had signed me for a tour with the Boston Symphony. I canceled several concerts I had in Cuba and came up, only to find that I was several days late. The Boston Symphony had started the tour, substituting Mr. Rakhmanoff as the soloist. Instead, however, I shall give a recital here on Feb. 20, folloged by an appearance with the New York Symphony.

"And no other of Europe's artists has joined the august company now gathering on our shores.

Arthur Rubinstein, Noted Polish Pianist, Who Returns to America After Twelve Years' Absence—Attired as a "Toreador" in the Field, Declares Arthur Rubinstein

JOY OVER POLAND'S FREEDOM

"I was wild with joy when I heard of the change in the status of Poland and of Paderewski's work there. We have great faith in Paderewski. Somehow, it seems to me that we musicians have a very intimate knowledge of politics. With constant traveling and mixing with persons of high political prominence we are able to note the subtle trend of popular feeling throughout the countries far better than does the commercial or other traveler. As to Paderewski, it was my fortune to meet him when I was very young and spend some time with him at his home in Switzerland. I had been sent to him by my friend and benefactor, Josaphat, who paid for the greater part of my education. Strangely enough, the two greatest aids in my life have been violinists, Yasaye and Achirch. And yet I have never seen them when I was a little boy and they gave me fiddles with which I would break them. I seemed to prefer the more polyphonic instrument, the piano.

"I am glad to be back in America! Yes, I must say I am. The last time I was here, in 1906, I was a very young boy and probably very stupid. It was my first tour. I had gone to Paris, rather to study its social advantages rather than to do serious work, when my manager closed the contract for me to make an American tour. Even this time, I must say my coming was rather unexpected. I had been making a nine-months' tour through South America. As mails and transportation are extremely difficult, owing to the war and various other causes, I had not heard from my manager since May.

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F. R. GRANT.