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HAPPENING

Guide to Local Arts, Entertainment & Events

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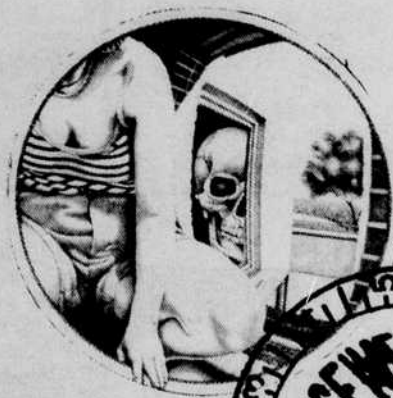


Photo-surrealistic drawings by Colorado artist are at Maude Kerns Center.



Legendary Russian Pianist Berman to Perform at the Hult Center



In his first U.S. concert tour since 1976, Russian pianist Lazar Berman will perform at the Hult Center on Wednesday, February 11, at 8 p.m.

Berman's performance is one of two west coast appearances; his U.S. tour includes six concerts.

The program features the romantic virtuoso fare which has made Berman famous. Among other works, he will perform the *Dante Sonata* and the *Mephisto Waltz* by Franz Liszt, *Pictures at an Exhibition* by Modest Moussorgsky and six preludes by Dmitri Shostakovich. While Berman is in Eugene, he will conduct a performers Master class at the University of Oregon School of Music. He will also give a lecture on Russian music and culture for the Department of Russian Studies. These will take place February 12 at the U of O Music School and are open and free to the public.

Berman first became known to the American public around 1960, when two poorly recorded but brilliantly performed imported records of Franz Liszt's

Transcendental Etudes found their way into one or two New York stores. Through the scratchy surface noise and tinny piano could be heard a pianist of heroic stature and blazing technique. The records became collector's items.

It was not until 1976 that American audiences had an opportunity to hear him in person in a series of recitals that swept the country. Harold Schonberg in *The New York Times* said, "In his second season before the American public Mr. Berman has become the kind of artist who is going to mesmerize audiences like Horowitz." The public performances were accompanied by new record releases from Columbia and Deutsche Grammophon that confirmed the promise of the earlier imports.

Born in Leningrad, Berman was an infant prodigy, making his first public appearance at the age of four. He attended the Special Music School in Leningrad, and then went on to the Moscow Conservatory, where his teacher was Alexander Goldenweiser, the distinguished pianist, composer and writer on music.

After graduating from the Moscow Conservatory in 1953, Berman began to perform extensively in the Soviet Union and Europe, capturing prizes and appearing with virtually all of the major orchestras and conductors of Europe.

Berman has recorded with such musical

giants as the Berlin Philharmonic and the Vienna Philharmonic. His second U.S. tour included performances with the Philadelphia Orchestra, the New York Philharmonic, and the Los Angeles Philharmonic.

Tickets for the event are \$15.00, \$10.00, and \$7.50, available at the Hult Center ticket office and at all Hult Center ticket outlets. A limited number of senior and student discount tickets are available at 35% off the regular ticket price on a first come-first serve basis. For more information, call 687-5000.

The Eugene concert is especially significant because it is the only performance for which Berman has given exclusive permission for a live national broadcast on American Public Radio. It will be produced with assistance from KWAX/KWBX-FM, the University's classical music stations in Eugene and Bend. This is the first time that a national audience will hear a Hult Center performance.

The production, to be broadcast from the Hult Center, will be available live on APR network stations located more than 150 miles from Eugene, including those in Portland. The concert will be rebroadcast at 8 pm on February 12. Karen Mathieson (formerly DuPriest) of Seattle, a writer and broadcaster who specializes in reporting on the arts, will be the host. She has spent nine years reporting on the cultural scene in Eugene-Springfield.

5 Feb 1987