

For Homecoming

Borge to Entertain: Merriment and Mischief

Famed pianist-humorist, Victor Borge, will be the featured entertainment attraction during Homecoming weekend when he presents his show, "Comedy in Music," in Mac Court at 8 p.m., Oct. 30, as part of the Homecoming concert-dance. Tickets for the show and dance are now on sale at the main desk of the SU.

25 Years

The 1965-66 season marks the 25th anniversary of Borge's arrival in the U.S. in 1941, a refugee from the Nazi occupation, and it is the twelfth season that he has been touring with his famous show, which has scored rave notices in both Europe and America.

Borge is best known as a superb comedian. However, he is also a brilliant musician and he knows and loves good music passionately.

After touring as a one-man show for many years, Borge added Leonid Hambro, former official pianist with the New York Philharmonic orchestra, to his show last season after he had suddenly conceived a new idea—how very, very funny it would be if he had a foil, a stooge off whom he could bounce his witticisms and who could aid him in his musical pranks. Borge was right. His instrumental involvements on stage with Mr. Hambro have been aptly dubbed as "hilarious piano duels."

Classic Comedy

The story of how Victor Borge first combined his artistry with wit is now a legend in show business. At fourteen, the young pianist was given the honor of playing Rachmaninoff's "Second Piano Concerto" as soloist with the Copenhagen Philharmonic Orchestra. When he winked at two nervous ladies in the first row, the audience began to titter. As a result the conductor nervously accelerated his beat, causing the orchestra to run ahead of the soloist. Borge, in the middle of a cadenze, stopped playing, walked to the conductor's stand, turned the score back three pages, bowed to the orchestra, and winking to the audience, walked back to the piano. The concerto continued

and ended in a wave of laughter and cheers.

He integrated more and more humor into his concerts, then wrote musical comedies, composed, directed and conducted. When the star comedian of one of these musicals fell ill, Borge replaced him and another chapter in a fabulous career was written. Borge became the idol of Denmark and the leading star of stage and screen. Recently when Borge was touring Denmark he found that many of his old films were still being played in movie houses throughout the country twenty-five years later.

Tough Times

Arriving in the United States in 1941, broke and unable to speak English, he lived for the next year on 25 cents a day, most of which were spent in movie houses where he went daily to listen and learn to speak English. After being a movie star in Denmark, it seemed natural to head for Hollywood, but the stu-

dio gates did not swing open. It was long months of living on 25 cents a day before he got his big break when he played for a private party and was hired on the spot to do the audience warm-up on the Bing Crosby radio show. Hired on a week-to-week basis, Borge remained on the show for 56 weeks. From then on, success followed success as Borge played radio and television engagements.

Solo Record

In 1953 Borge hired a theater in Seattle for a one week's concert engagement of his one-man show. Both critics and the manager were skeptical that a solo show could make a hit with the concert-going public, and the manager demanded his money in advance. The performance was jammed night after night and Borge took his show on to Broadway where, with 849 performances he had the longest solo run in the history of the theatre—in the entire world.

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