



REICHSPOST. NOVEMBER 10, 1937. VIENNA.

Song Recital.

The Indian singer Ali Khan, who is a descendant of the famous artist family of Baroda, gave a Concert Recital of a cycle of songs in nine different languages of India: he was excellently accompanied by Miss Ratcliff. The songs were written by Maheboob Khan. The world of tone in these songs was well appreciated by the youthful circle of the Young Urania Choir, and by the members of society present, not only in a musical way - often it was as if one heard old ecclesiastical music - and there was always the suggestive expression of the artist, who knew how to touch the feelings of his listeners, in spite of the foreign language, and to bring before the audience the atmosphere of the Indian landscape, and to produce a deep effect.

The style of performance and the technique of the voice are not those of the schools, but they are the result of an inner concentration; the secret of this kind of Joga is quite unconscious, and not purposely produced, it is only given to the greatest creative artist.

Very rarely does anyone come among us, who shews the result of the spiritual method of artistic production of the innermost Orient, which was shewn here in the most convincing manner.

VOLKS ZEITUNG. NOVEMBER 21, 1937.

ALI KHAN IN VIENNA.
THE GRANDSON OF THE INDIAN BEETHOVEN.

An exotic artist in a musical circle in Vienna. - Under a white turban is a brown face. - Ali Khan sings sacred songs in Sanscrit, Prakrit, Hindustani and other languages, songs from his Indian homeland: then some worldly songs, and songs of Nature: with soft singing tone the singer gives songs in praise of the sun, and of the spring: on his face is a happy smile of one, who gives,

with shuddering sorrow, climbing to the grandest climax with his great voice, and then to the mighty collapse at the end! One sees with astonishment how this human being has seized the whole varied and complete circle of every land, every tone, every civilization, and bridged all that lies between,

Then Ali Khan tells us of the music of his own land: he is the grandson of the Indian Beethoven "Moula Bux", who has re-created and organized Indian music in founding the school of music in Baroda near Bombay; before all else he has created the system by which it is possible to transcribe Indian music:- Our European music may be called masculine, Indian music feminine with its strange foreign intervals and quarter tones. Through the invention of the possibility of writing the Indian music, he raised the music of his own country in the East and gave it to the West, till then impossible on account of the quarter tones.

There are also other gifted members of Ali Khan's family; they are all occupied in the Sufi movement, which is more than a thousand years old, and is spread over the entire world: the pure ideal of this movement is the deepening of *the Soul* and the brotherhood of man.

With this ideal does the cousin of Ali Khan work, in writing Eastern melodies with Western harmonies. Another cousin, a mystic and a poet, is the leader of the Sufi movement; he does a work, which is full of blessing to humanity.

Ali Khan himself uses his artistic studies as a means coming from the land of morning (East) to the land of evening (West) to direct all hearts through music to a deeper understanding of humanity, which is his dream. On Ali Khan's journey through Europe, he has with him a deep-thinking ~~English~~ Englishwoman, Mrs. Ratcliff; on her journeys through the world the soul of the people is unveiled to her, and she gives forth in song the story of many lands, from the Indian Death Lament to the Song of the Roumanian Shepherd. The accompaniment is moving, and full of atmosphere and meaning, and is drawn from the violin in magic tones. In a few months these two artists will

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In an artist's studio there was a distinguished circle of friends gathered in honour of the Indian Singer Ali Khan, who will soon have the opportunity to shew his rare art to the public of Vienna.

Ali Khan sang in various Indian languages, also some worldly songs, melodies from the East with Western harmonies, and interpreted the moving lyrics of the exotic tone-poet in all the richness of their delicate tones.

In arie by Handel and Verdi he shewed a wide range, and dramatic power and the Italian Method of the first rank in his glorious voice.