

March 30, 1966

Nat Symphony

NOTES BY THE VICE PRESIDENT

This is a great night in American Concert History.

Bravo, Mr. Rubenstein. We are so very proud to have you back in our Nation's Capital.

Your name and fame have encircled the world. Your artistry belongs to all mankind. But we Americans rejoice that you are our very own: -- In 1946, you became an American citizen. Your adopted land knows you as a true patriot, just as the world knows you for enriching the universal heritage of music.

It was in 1906 -- 60 years ago that Mr. Rubenstein made his American debut.

Since then, you have thrilled millions in Concert Halls and by your recordings.

Truly, you are incomparable. You are greatness -- excellence -- and eternal youth -- personified.

Our warmest congratulations go out to you and to your dear wife.

May I say to Mr. Mitchell, to the Symphony Board, and to members of this great symphony: Well done. We are so very proud of you.

The National Symphony is very dear to the hearts of music lovers -- not only here in the Capital, but throughout America.

What a great cultural asset you are to America. The Symphony has given so many memorable performances to so many audiences -- young and old.

Mrs. Humphrey and I are happy to share with this audience the pleasure of attending this outstanding concert.

We look forward to many such delightful evenings in the future.

We are proud to be members of the Symphony "family." Mrs. Humphrey has always been conductor -- or First Violinist in our family. I am proud to be "Second Fiddle."

For all of us here tonight: Great music -- a great pianist -- a great Symphony -- make us feel very much "at home" in our truly "Great Society."

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