music...

Fine chamber concert

By Ray Hagstrom

Saturday evening, The Chamber Symphony of Philadelphia performed in Kresge Auditorium under the auspices of the MIT Baton Society. The program presented a variety of material — the Concerto in D major for String Orchestra by Stravinsky, the Symphony in D major by Luigi Cherubini, and the Serenade No. 1 in D major by Brahms. This well-rehearsed orchestra gave a performance which was up to the expectations of all but the most critical listeners.

It cannot be denied that one of the violin players missed during the Stravinsky Concerto, or that the tone of a few wind parts broke during the performance of the other two pieces. Nonetheless, the orchestra was always well-conducted and expressively directed by Amos Brumlow. The audience was so impressed by the performance that an encore was played.

The first piece on the program was the Stravinsky. This Concerto in D is one of his most melodious compositions. The performance and rendition were both fairly perfunctory. This is not to condemn the orchestra or the conductor by any means, but their first effort was the least impressive of the evening. The addition of the wind instruments and stimulation of the strings produced a beautiful performance of well-interpreted version of the Cherubini Symphony (performed with the modifications arranged by Toscanini in 1935).

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