



# Rhythm and Reason

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**Columbia's Music Festival**

**Set for May 10th Weekend**

By Harriett Johnson

Columbia University's Annual festival of contemporary music to be held this year from May 10th through May 13th, is a yearly event of which New York can be justly proud. Sponsored by the Alice M. Ditson Fund, which is administered by Columbia, this year's festival, the second one to be given, will feature an evening devoted to the music of an American composer, long neglected, Charles Ives.

Although Mr. Ives is over 70 years old, many of his works composed years ago are still in manuscript and unperformed. His interesting third symphony, for example, completed in 1904, had its world premiere only this season in New York with the New York Little Symphony in Carnegie Chamber Music Hall. It lay in a Connecticut barn for 40 years.

The Columbia Festival, in recognizing Ives' contribution, is performing a real service to the cause of American music. Two premieres of his are scheduled, "The Unanswered Question," and "Central Park in the Dark." Also on the program to be held in the McMillin Academic Theater, Broadway at 116th Street., on Saturday, May 11, are the aforementioned third symphony, the first New York performance of the second string quartet, and the second violin sonata. Ensembles from the Juilliard School of Music under the direction of Edgar Schenkman, with Mordecai Bauman as baritone soloist, will perform the music.

## **Ballet for Martha Graham**

The Festival starts off Friday night, May 10, with an evening of ballets danced by Martha Graham and her company. Samuel Barber's new ballet written especially for Miss Graham is the novelty of the evening, and will have its

world premiere. Aaron Copland's "Appalachian Spring," winner of last year's Pulitzer prize in music, completes the program.

Scheduled for Saturday afternoon, May 11, is a concert and nationwide broadcast by the NBC Symphony. The name of the conductor for this occasion is still unannounced because he is to be the winner of the annual award to an American conductor given by the Festival committee who at this date have not released the name of the lucky recipient. William Schuman's Concerto for piano and orchestra with Beveridge Webster as soloist, and the first New York performance of Ernst Bacon's suite "From These States," and Louise Talma's "Tocatta for Orchestra," are the compositions to be performed.

On the afternoon of May 12, the chorus and orchestra of the High School of Music and Art under the direction of Helen Clark Moore and Alexander Richter are to present a program, also in the McMillin Theatre, which will feature additional premieres.

Monday night, May 13, the Festival closes with a performance of Gian Carlo Menotti's new opera, "The Medium," to be given in Brander Matthews Hall by the Columbia Theatre Associates in collaboration with the Department of Music.