

Noted pianist to perform here

By IFAN PAYNE
Music Critic

Pianist Andre-Michel Schub comes to perform in McCain Auditorium on Tuesday evening and he is preceded by a reputation that is rarely matched amongst younger pianists and accompanied by a continuing media blitz that is exceeded, amongst pianists, only by the aura of promotional hype that continually surrounds Vladimir Horowitz.

There can be no doubt that Mr. Schub is an exceptionally gifted ar-



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tist. He made his recital debut at the Alice Tully Hall, New York, in 1974 and then went on to perform with the Boston Symphony Orchestra, the New York Philharmonic, the Cleveland, the Chicago — in fact most of the major orchestras in this country.

1974 was also the year in which he won the Naumberg International Piano Competition, and competitions then continued to be a way of life until he finally won the Big One, for in 1981 he won the coveted Van Cliburn International Piano Competition.

This was an event surrounded by perhaps the greatest broadcasting and print attention of any musical competition ever held in the country. The *New York Times* carried daily reports of the whole competition and the finals and announcement of the winners were televised live to an audience of tens of millions.

As a result of this triumph, Andre-Michel Schub has recorded for Vox (see sidebar below), and has already been on two European recital tours.

The pianist was born in France, but was brought as a baby by his parents to the United States and now is considered to be a New Yorker. Indeed, following the Van Cliburn competition, Mayor Koch honored him with a Certificate of Appreciation in a New York City Hall ceremony.

The young Andre-Michel started to learn the piano, at the age of four, from his mother. His subsequent teachers included Jascha Zayde in

New York and, after a year at Princeton, Rudolf Serkin at The Curtis Institute in Philadelphia.

Although his repertoire, as far as can be made out from reports of his performances, is one that is safe within the confines of the middle of the road classics, Mr. Schub brings to his program in McCain a wide sample of that repertoire.

His performances of the works of Mozart have been particularly well received and he will commence his recital on Tuesday with that composer's *Sonata No. 12 in F Major, K. 332*. This will be followed by the *Variations Serieuses* by Mendelssohn and by Robert Schumann's *Etudes Symphoniques*.

Following the intermission he will perform Beethoven's *Sonata No. 11 in B-flat Major, Op. 22*. The program will end with a work that he performed, I believe, as part of the Van Cliburn Competition and that is also included on his recently released first LP recording, *Apres une lecture du Dante, fantasia-quasi sonata* by Franz Liszt (more familiarly known as the *Dante Sonata*).

Audiences in Manhattan have been extremely fortunate in the quality of pianists who have performed here in recent years, and Doreen Bauman, the manager of McCain Auditorium, has attracted here yet another young virtuoso who promises to provide us with the latest in a succession of unforgettable musical evenings.

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