

PHILADELPHIA

"Thelma Given is a phenomenon,-- one of the violinists not to be accounted for by any course of training. The audience she faced yesterday at the Academy was not prepared for a personality so ardent and so forceful as that to which her violin gave soulful expression. For her temperament burns and soars as though it must find a skyward outlet. Though her face is immobile and reposeful as she plays, her being is not, and like a Maenad whom the divine fire possesses, she pushes the violin to the very bounds of its capacity to make it say what she would like to have it say. One feels first of all the impetuous drive and fire and mettle of her playing. She might like to lead a cavalry charge -- she might like to redeem Russia -- but she plays the violin, and into the violin she releases her racial consciousness, and there she finds the wings of aspiration." -- Philadelphia Public Ledger.

CHICAGO

"A warmth of interpretation and a sure and formidable mechanical command." -- Chicago Daily News.

"A young violinist with personality, of great talent and deep feeling." -- Chicago Examiner.

"Prove the young player the possessor of a high degree of technical command of her instrument, gifted with interpretive fire and fantasy, and excellent musical taste." -- Chicago Tribune.

"An excellent performance, one that had imagination, contrast, light and shade and persuasive emotion." -- Chicago Journal.