

Dr. Willy Dreifuss exhibition

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18th February, 1960.

Dr. WILLY DREIFUSS EXHIBITION

H.E. the Swiss Ambassador opened on Wednesday, February 24th 1960, an exhibition of "Drawings of Musicians" by Dr. Willy Dreifuss at the Exhibition Suite of the Royal Festival Hall. The exhibition will be open to concert patrons until March 20th.

* * *

Dr. Willy Dreifuss, a Swiss physician, is a lover of music and a fan of musicians. Although he was destined for a career in the old established family business, he decided for medicine and became a children's specialist. As an outstanding amateur violinist he played also regularly with professional chamber ensembles.

An accident poisoned and ruined his finger, thus putting an end to his playing of the violin. Luckily for him, he had also studied drawing, and became an adept at drawing with either hand.

However, he could not leave music alone and soon became a regular fixture at all the Swiss music festivals and concerts. A special place is usually kept for him on one of the steps near the platform, where he is seen with his pad and pencil. The countless "victims" of his cartoons and drawings usually reward him with autographs and are often presented with the original. Dr. Dreifuss has met most of the great musicians and with some of them formed lasting friendships. Sir Thomas Beecham, Klemperer, Clifford Curzon, Fournier, Stern, Kubelik, Menuhin and others look forward to visiting him whenever they appear in Switzerland.

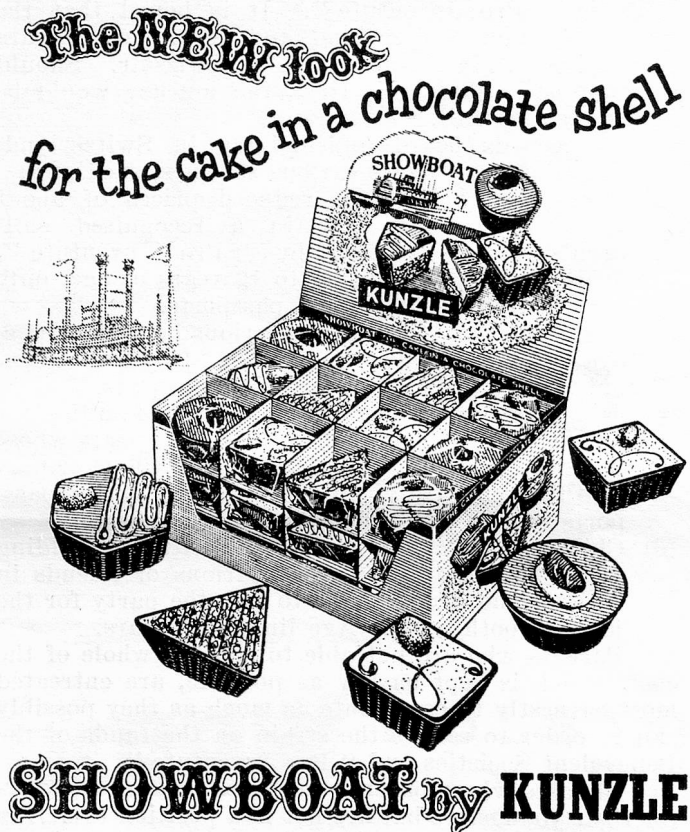
Dr. Dreifuss, the Artist, has also furnished many delightful drawings of children and old people to well-known Swiss magazines.

Unfortunately his best drawings were burnt last year in a fire at an exhibition in Zurich. His last show in Paris won him the "Diplôme d'Honneur" in 1958.

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