

Two London Swiss artists at the Wigmore Hall

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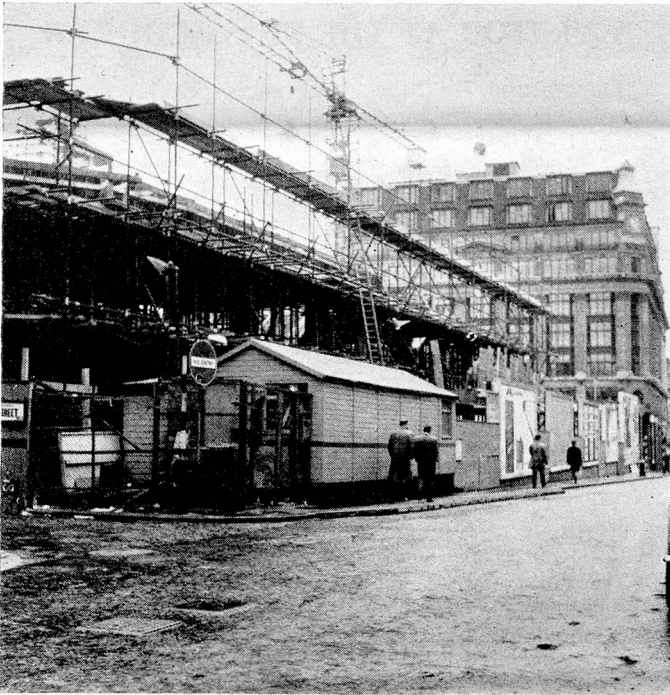
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the sense intended by the federal authorities as well as by all the contributors to the accomplishment of the scheme: that it should not only provide us with a convenient and pleasant meeting place of the Colony for all sorts of social functions, but also and above all become a worthy focus of Swiss cultural, artistic and literary interests and achievements for our own and our children's benefit, as well as for the urgently needed function as a cultural bridge between England and our home country.

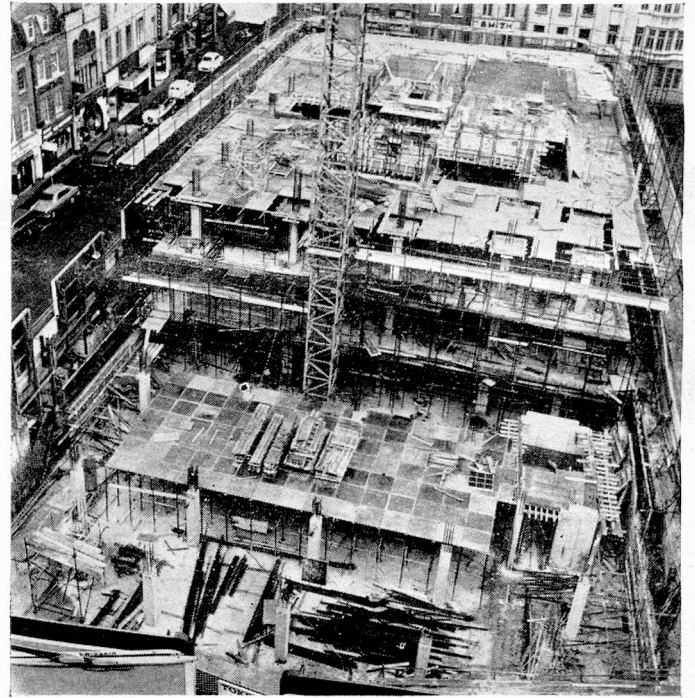
Much careful consideration, sustained effort and hard work have gone into finding a solution to these vital problems. The federal authorities in Switzerland are favourably disposed towards the idea. Monsieur Maurice Jaccard, in charge of affairs concerning the Swiss abroad in the Federal Political Department in Berne, has been in London to study the matter, and it is now more than a pious hope that the Swiss government may guarantee the rent for a fair period of time. This, in turn, would impose an obligation on the Swiss Community in this country to produce a maximum effort both moral and financial to bring about the establishment of such a Centre. Funds amounting to about half the needed total for equipment, furniture and installation have already been promised by societies, firms and individuals, and in due course there will be an appeal to the Swiss Colony at large.



The Presidents' Assembly meeting on 2nd June at the Swiss Embassy in London have appointed Dr. X. M. Speckert, lawyer and fellow countryman of ours, resident in London and deeply interested in the realisation of the scheme, to study every aspect of the plan. He will, in conjunction with the Embassy and the Colony (through the societies' presidents) evolve a detailed scheme acceptable to the authorities in Switzerland and the Swiss Community in this country.

In the meantime it is up to us to show conclusively our very real interest in the scheme and our determination to make a great success of it.

Mariann.



(Photographs by courtesy Swiss National Tourist Office.)

TWO LONDON SWISS ARTISTS AT THE WIGMORE HALL

On Monday, 8th June, the Kirckman Concert Society presented the eleventh concert in their series of Chamber Music Concerts at the Wigmore Hall, London W.1. The Alberni String Quartet opened the programme with Shostakovich's Quartet No. 8. This was followed by "La Bonne Chanson" (Fauré), beautifully performed by Miss Hazel Schmid (Soprano), Mr. Albert Ferber (Piano) and the Alberni Quartet. The programme ended with the infrequently heard Piano Quintet in C minor, Op. 115 No. 2, by Fauré.

Miss Schmid has been having notable successes in recitals and as soloist in oratorios and broadcasts. She has been called an accomplished singer, an exquisite stylist and a potential "star" singer. Mr. Ferber hardly needs any introduction. His concert tours have taken him to twenty-five countries, and he will be returning to Latin America for his sixth tour later this year. He has recorded the entire piano works by Debussy, and his recent appearance at the Royal Festival Hall was received with great enthusiasm.

The concert at the Wigmore Hall on 8th June was an unforgettable experience for anyone present.

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