

Ibach Pianos Featured At Music World



Six Generations of the Ibach Piano

Johann Sebastian Bach had been dead more than 40 years - the music-loving world was still mourning the death of Mozart - and, while a 24-year-old boy called Ludwig van Beethoven was struggling with his first opus, a young organ builder was sitting in a primitive workshop in Beyenburg looking at a square box - like instrument he had made. Hesitantly he pressed the keys, and his fingers ran delicately over ivory and mahogany, a pure and beautiful sound rang out in the little grey-walled room. And 28-year-old Johannes Adolf Ibach realized that he had at last achieved his ambition. He had made his first pianoforte.

Ibach came from a tiny mountain village called Beyenburg where his family had lived for generations. It was there, as a young boy, that he acted as organ blower in the little convent church on Sundays. And it was there, taught and encouraged by the monks living in the district, that he learned the difficult art of organ-building. At this time piano-making was in its infancy - Christofori of Florence invented the first hammer piano in 1711 - and Adolf Ibach was determined to master this difficult craft. So he left his hometown and traveled across Europe, gradually adding to his store of knowledge. After a few years, he went back to Beyenburg to create, in

1794, his first piano. And it was from this instrument and the little grey-walled room that was his workshop that the firm of Ibach grew.

By the second generation Ibach had already established themselves in the art of making pianos. The cast-iron frame was introduced to replace the earlier wooden frame. As a result of this development, the piano is able to produce the powerful, resonant tone that is desirable for music-making at home as well as in large concert halls. A demand for Ibach pianos grew abroad - in Holland, Belgium, France, and Spain.

The industrial revolution in the third generation "Ibach" becomes a byword in piano making. It was at this time Rudolf Ibach started the Ibach Dealer System that we take for granted today. Ibach pianos are being sold worldwide. And more importantly, Ibach formed close and friendly links with such leading musicians as Wagner, Liszt, Brahms, and many others.

Warm and close relations with leading musicians such as Claudio Arrau, Elly Ney, and many other prominent pianists, started in the previous generation, continued with Reger, Richard Strauss, as well as Schoenberg, Weber and Bartok among others.

The development of a vertical piano with excellent tonal properties and exemplary design created a sensation. International acclaim and expansion gave great hope for the future. A new

Refuseniks Khasina And Osnis Receive Permission To Emigrate

NEW YORK (JTA) — Two long-term refuseniks have been told they can emigrate from the Soviet Union, Soviet Jewry groups reported here.

Natasha Khasina of Moscow, an 11-year refusenik told she would never be allowed to leave, and Marat Osnis of Chernovtsy (Chernovitz), waiting 16 years, were informed by OVIR emigration authorities that they and their families could join family members in Israel, according to the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, the Long Island Committee for Soviet Jewry and the

Union of Councils for Soviet Jews.

Soviet Jewry activists were overjoyed at the news.

Khasina and Osnis were told by telephone to prepare their paperwork for the OVIR authorities, who would then inform them when they could expect their visas.

Both Khasina and Osnis had been repeatedly denied the right to emigrate, based on alleged possession of "state secrets." Khasina is a mathematician specializing in computer programming and Osnis is a computer engineer.

Khasina and her husband, formerly a prominent professor of mathematics, were arrested in 1976 for attending a memorial service at Babi Yar and were prevented from attending a service the following year. They applied to emigrate in September 1977 and both lost their jobs as a result. They are observant Jews.

Khasina has been active in women's demonstrations, at which she has been beaten by the KGB. Khasina, who teaches Hebrew, was threatened for prosecution for "parasitism" - a charge often levied at those who do not hold government-sanctioned jobs. Their apartment was searched several times and Hebrew books, personal letters and a tape recorder were confiscated.

beginning was made at the Schwelm factory, in West Germany. Grand pianos and uprights soared Ibach's fame to an international position. A chain of carefully selected dealers provided the bridge between Ibach and music lovers the world over.

This is something unique - 6 generations of Ibach pianos - in the history of the piano. And what makes Ibach pianos so special in the past, now and in the future? Uprights use the same technical features as the grands, and they are produced by a synthesis of the latest technology and generations of accumulated experience.

Today the work is continued by sons, Christian and Rolf Ibach. They were taught by the best piano makers and work with leading craftsmen and artists. Together they strive to be "sound experts" to music lovers all over the world.

Today the Ibach pianos "shine" in concert halls all over Europe and are the chosen instrument of contemporary artists such as Sviatoslav Richter, Arnold Schoenberg, and Walter Geisheking.

Approximately 350 grand pianos and 400 verticle Ibach pianos are meticulously produced each year. "These pianos sound and feel like fine velvet....." states a noted Las Vegas musician. Music World has several for the viewing and listening pleasure of those who consider themselves connoisseurs of the finest. Music World is located at 2295 East Sahara Avenue, 457-6869.

Forever Young



Caesars Palace star George Burns (left) took a break from two days of interviews, clowning with a poster cut-out promoting his newest feature film, "18 Again." Burns and co-star Charlie Schlatter (pictured right) were interviewed by more than 60 national press at Caesars, previewing the film for reviews to run in early April. "18 Again" will be released for general viewing on April 8.

Marat Osnis's mother, Dr. Vanda Osnis, who lives with her husband, Dr. Yitzhak Osnis, in Kfar Saba, Israel, has traveled with the Mothers for Freedom on behalf of her son. She spoke with members of Congress in 1986 and 1987 in a plea for his emigration.

Marat, 41, and his wife, Klaudia, 36, have a son, Boris, 15, and a daughter, Dana, 4. In 1972, they first applied for exit visas together with his parents and grandmother, who were permitted to go to Israel.

Marat was refused, because he allegedly was exposed to classified materials in his engineering job. He left his job, where he had never needed security clearance, in 1971. Osnis initially was told he would receive a visa "within a short time." He supported his family by tutoring in mathematics and physics and performing odd jobs. Osnis was told in 1979 that he could expect his visa in October, 1981, after 10 years had passed since he had left his professional work. But he was again refused then, and many times subsequently, without explanation.

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