ARTUR RUBINSTEIN, FAMED PIANO VIRTUOSO
. . . *"I never get tired of playing"*
Sun-Telegraph Photo by Earl McCartney

Artur Rubinstein Is Young Artist At 70

Don't let Artur Rubinstein's thinning white mane fool you.

At first glance, the famed piano virtuoso looks his 70 years. But that first impression soon falls before the youthfulness that pervades him — his springy walk, his stimulating conversation and, of course, his playing.

He doesn't live like a man of 70, either. The two homes he maintains simultaneously in New York and Paris would seem a luxury, until you consider the more than 125 concerts he plays each year on both sides of the Atlantic. With only one home — here or in Europe — he'd hardly ever be home.

AFTER A HALF CENTURY of more than 100 concerts yearly, Rubinstein still approaches the keyboard with the enthusiasm and vigor of a young artist. Another man might be tired by now but Rubinstein chuckles at the suggestion.

"Tired? I never get tired of playing. I only get tired of people. I'd rather play for people hour after hour. It's only when they gush over me and want me to sign autographs for their grandchildren that I get tired."

Why, then, did Rubinstein disappoint his Friday night audience at Syria Mosque and refuse to play an encore despite repeated curtain calls? He explained:

"I WOULD HAVE played an encore only if Mr. Steinberg had asked me to.

"I don't like to do it on my own in the middle of a concert because it disturbs the line of the program. It appears flippant.

"It's different, of course, if I play the last work on the program. Then I have the evening to myself and it doesn't matter what I do."

Rubinstein appeared as soloist with the Pittsburgh Symphony, playing the "Emperor Concerto" in an all-Beethoven program. The concert will be repeated at the Mosque at 3:10 p. m. today.