

## Recital: Kim Kashkashian, Young Violist

Kim Kashkashian has become a regular on the local music scene, with recitals and frequent chamber-music concerts. Her work has long been congenial, especially in chamber music, but it has not always suggested a very bold self-assertiveness. Thursday night in the Abraham Goodman House, Pro Musicis presented the young violist in a recital that at its best revealed a growing artistic command.

Miss Kashkashian hardly needs to grow much in technical matters. She can make the viola produce a characteristically rich, mellow timbre, but more unusually, she also maintains an impressive accuracy of pitch and fullness of tone in the upper positions.

But what stood out Thursday was her ability to convey a wide range of emotion. Her best work came in Hindemith's Sonata for solo viola (Op. 25, No. 1). Hindemith was a violist himself, and his writing flatters the viola's entire potential. Miss Kashkashian caught it all, from fevered intensity to the austere spirituality of the closing bars.

Transcriptions by Alan A. Arnold of Dvorak's Rondo for cello (Op. 94) and Romance for violin (Op. 11) also went well, and the dry modernisms of Barbara Kolb's "Related Characters," a New York premiere, were authoritatively handled. Only in the concluding Brahms Sonata in F minor (Op. 120) did Miss Kashkashian seem slightly unsettled and unsure. The fine pianist was Robert McDonald.

John Rockwell