

TRIBUTE TO  
ANTONÍN DVOŘÁK  
2004



*Antonín Dvořák*

8. 9. 1841 - 1. 5. 1904



gästarna på den gamla  
Cim gick lyf - -  
från den lilla kyrkan i Karlens.

Arvidson

# ANTONÍN DVOŘÁK

(1841 – 1904)

The composer Antonín Dvořák (1841-1904) is the Czech nation's best known personality. His work has generated keen interest both at home and world-wide for over a century.

Antonín Dvořák was born on 8<sup>th</sup> September 1841 in Nelahozeves. He came from a modest village background. He started learning the violin in his native village and gained further musical education from his teacher Antonín Liehmann in Zlonice. Then he studied at the Organ School in Prague and later on played the viola in the orchestra of the Provisional Theatre. He then became an organist at the Church of St Adalbert. His work drew the attention of the Viennese critic Eduard Hanslick and the composer Johannes Brahms who recommended him to the publisher Fritz Simrock in Berlin. Simrock's publication of the Moravian Duets and especially the Slavonic Dances opened the door to the world for the composer. He soon gained acclaim in Austria, Germany and especially in England. He visited England nine times conducting successful performances of his oratorios, as well as symphonic pieces. Between 1892 and 1895 his international career culminated in the United States where he be-

came director of the New York Conservatory. He received honorary doctorates from the University of Cambridge and Charles University in Prague and he was a professor and later director of the Prague Conservatory. He died on 1<sup>st</sup> May 1904.

Dvořák was an educated and thoughtful artist, he was steadfast in his Christian faith and morals, he led a modest and humble life. He drew on Czech musical and literary tradition. He was inspired by the culture of the East and absorbed the impressions of the American continent. He was the first Czech to write great oratorios in the West-European Christian tradition. His music is enthralling by its richness of melody, sense of rhythm, as well as its splendid orchestration. It embraces all genres: chamber and symphonic music, oratorio and opera.

The Czech nation is proud of having a personality whose music is heard both at home and abroad. By a lucky coincidence the 1<sup>st</sup> of May is also the date of the accession of the Czech Republic to the European Union. Dvořák's music is the best message from the Czech people to Europe.



# PROGRAMME OF TRIBUTE TO ANTONÍN DVOŘÁK 2004

## 30<sup>th</sup> April 2004

3.30 p.m.

homage to Antonín Dvořák at his grave at the Vyšehrad Cemetery

4.30 p.m.

commemorative Holy Mass at the basilica of Sts Peter and Paul at Vyšehrad

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## 1<sup>st</sup> May 2004

3 p.m.

**Dvořák Hall, Rudolfinum**

concert on the occasion of the accession of the Czech Republic to the European Union  
and the commencement of "Tribute to Antonín Dvořák 2004"

**Dvorana, Rudolfinum**

ceremonial meeting of public and cultural representatives  
and the presentation of the autograph  
of Symphony No. 9 in E minor "From the New World"

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## 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2004

opening of the exhibition "**The Sacred Works of Antonín Dvořák**" held under the  
auspices of Cardinal Miloslav Vlk in the Dining Rooms of the Municipal House  
connected with a special presentation of the autographs of the **Stabat mater**,  
**Requiem, Te Deum** and **St Ludmila**. The exhibition will be open during the Prague  
Spring Festival till 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2004.

opening of the one-day exhibition  
of the autograph of **Symphony No. 9 in E minor "From the New World"**  
in Dvorana, Rudolfinum

### Concerts

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11 a.m.

**Dvořák the Slavonic**

2 p.m.

**Dvořák the National**

5 p.m.

**Dvořák the Spiritual**

7 p.m.

**Dvořák the Cosmopolitan**

9 p.m.

**Dvořák the Innermost**

# OPENING CONCERT

1<sup>st</sup> May 2004

## Programme

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Serenade for String  
Orchestra in E major,  
Op. 22  
Humoresque



## Performers

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Suk Chamber Orchestra  
conductor: Josef Suk

One of the merits of Dvořák's music is its ability to give peace, joy and harmony. The Serenade in E major for String Orchestra, Op. 22, written in 1875, proves that. The Serenade emanates the romantic feeling of a summer evening, gallantness, a dancy tone, a passionate profession of love, as well as a virtuoso postlude. The piece resounding under the baton of Dvořák's grand-son, the internationally acclaimed violinist Josef Suk, will create a magnificent arch over time when the past will meet the present. And that, too, is the meaning of the "Tribute to Antonín Dvořák 2004".



**RUDOLFINUM – DVOŘÁK HALL**  
**3 p.m.**

# DVOŘÁK THE SLAVONIC

## 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2004

### Programme

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Solemn March, Op. 54  
Slavonic Rhapsodies, Op. 45  
No. 3 in A flat major  
Slavonic Dances – selection



### Performers

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Prague Radio Symphony  
Orchestra  
conductor: Vladimír Válek

During his life Antonín Dvořák often turned to the large Slav territory for inspiration. His work contains Russian dumkas, Polish polonaises and South Slavonic round dances. The most famous composition of its kind is the Slavonic Dances, which helped to spread Dvořák's fame all over the world.



**PRAGUE CASTLE – SPANISH HALL**  
**11 a.m.**

# DVOŘÁK THE NATIONAL

2<sup>nd</sup> May 2004

## Programme

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Polonaise in E flat major  
Prague Waltzes  
Romance in F minor, Op. 11  
Mazurek in E minor, Op. 49  
Czech Suite, Op. 39



## Performers

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Prague Philharmonia  
conductor: Zbyněk Müller  
violin: František Novotný

Antonín Dvořák drew on Czech and Slavonic inspiration; he always professed his being a Czech. The programme of this concert testifies to his interest in local traditions.



**ŽOFÍN PALACE – LARGE ROOM**  
**2 p.m.**

# DVOŘÁK THE SPIRITUAL

## 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2004

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### Programme

Stabat mater, Op. 58

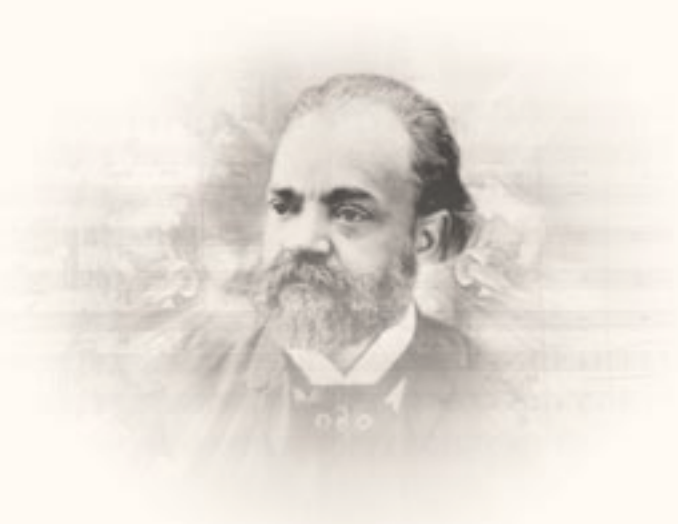


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### Performers

Prague Symphony Orchestra  
Prague Philharmonic Choir  
choirmaster: Jaroslav Brych  
conductor: Petr Altrichter  
soprano: Marina Vyskvorkina  
alto: Dagmar Pecková  
tenor: Valentin Prolat  
bass: Peter Mikuláš

Dvořák's spiritual music added considerably to his work's world-wide acclaim. His faith, human and artistic creed, his profound humanity and ideals flowing from Christianity, his love of nature as God's most perfect creation, these were the things shaping his character and work.



**THE MUNICIPAL HOUSE – SMETANA HALL**  
**5 p.m.**



# DVOŘÁK THE COSMOPOLITAN

2<sup>nd</sup> May 2004

## Programme

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Symphony No. 9 in E minor,  
Op. 95 "From the New World"  
Concerto for Cello and  
Orchestra in B minor, Op. 104



## Performers

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Czech Philharmonic  
Orchestra  
conductor: Jiří Bělohlávek  
cello: Jiří Bárta

Dvořák was a Czech who very early on won international acclaim. His guest performances abroad testify to that; he visited England nine times, he was director of the Music Conservatory in New York, he achieved success in Germany, Austria and made friends with Brahms and Tchaikovsky. The interest in Dvořák's work has never declined, his music is heard every year in thousands of performances all over the world.



**RUDOLFINUM – DVOŘÁK HALL**  
**7 p.m.**

# DVOŘÁK THE INNERMOST

2<sup>nd</sup> May 2004

## Programme

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Suite in A major, Op. 98  
Sonatina for violin and piano, Op. 100  
Humoresques, Op. 101  
Biblical Songs, Op. 99



## Performers

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piano: Radoslav Kvapil  
violin: Ivan Ženatý  
baritone: Roman Janál

Dvořák wrote his Sonatina, Op. 100, for his family, dedicating it "to my children... as a token of the completion of my hundredth work." The original version of his Humoresques shows captivating melodic invention, his Biblical Songs testify to Dvořák's deepest Christian faith.



**ACADEMY OF MUSIC PRAGUE – MARTINŮ HALL**  
**9 p.m.**

# EXHIBITIONS

## THE SACRED WORKS OF ANTONÍN DVOŘÁK

**THE MUNICIPAL  
HOUSE**

**3<sup>rd</sup> May 2004 – 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2004**



The exhibition will provide a unique opportunity to see some of the manuscripts and first prints of Dvořák's sacred compositions not usually accessible to the general public. There will also be a special presentation of the autographs of his Stabat mater, Requiem, St Ludmila and Te Deum. Thanks to the Municipal House these autographs are to be restored, preserving them for future generations. The composer's artistic development and the genesis of individual compositions will be illustrated by examples from his correspondence. His deep religious faith will be testified to by various personal objects. The wider context and the spiritual climate of the time will be illustrated by selected works of art. This exhibition will take place under the personal patronage of Cardinal Miloslav Vlk, Archbishop of Prague, Primate of Bohemia.

## THE WORLD'S LAST FAREWELL TO ANTONÍN DVOŘÁK

**MUSEUM OF  
ANTONÍN DVOŘÁK**

**12<sup>th</sup> March 2004 – 30<sup>th</sup> April 2005**



This exhibition will commemorate the death of the composer Antonín Dvořák a hundred years ago on 1<sup>st</sup> May 1904. The public will be able to see, among other things, a unique collection of photographs of the composer's funeral which ranked among the outstanding events of its kind. The exhibits will include the death mask taken by the sculptor Josef Mařatka and the cast of the Maestro's hand. Dvořák's compositions written towards the end of his life will be commemorated, as well as the response of Czech and international personalities and institutions to the composer's death as published in the press of the day. The exhibits on display belong to the Museum of Antonín Dvořák and to the composer's family.

## EXHIBITION OF THE AUTOGRAPH OF SYMPHONY No. 9 IN E MINOR "FROM THE NEW WORLD"

RUDOLFINUM

2<sup>nd</sup> May 2004



An exceptional exhibition held within the project "Tribute to Antonín Dvořák 2004" will show a single exhibit – the original score of the most famous Symphony No. 9 in E minor, Op. 95 "From the New World" by Antonín Dvořák.

For the occasion a unique space of non-traditional architecture has been created, marking the high spiritual and cultural value of the work. The 120 page manuscript measuring 263 x 340 mm and bound as one volume is normally stored under strict climatic and safety conditions in a bank. The Symphony which ranks among the most precious jewels of music history has for many decades been heard in concert halls all over the world, performed by the finest orchestras and conductors.

It was not by chance that it sounded symbolically when the first man stepped on the Moon on 21<sup>st</sup> July 1969. "The New World Symphony" is a work of international cultural importance nominated in connection with the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the composer's death to be included in the UN "Memory of the World". A personal encounter with the manuscript will undoubtedly be a great occasion in the life of any music lover.

When speaking about the genius of Antonín Dvořák, his music takes of course the most important place. However, worth mentioning also is his personality which can be viewed from different angles.

A musicologist will point out how a young man, who had been supposed to become a butcher, finally became not only a professor and later director of the Prague Conservatory, director of the New York Conservatory, but also one of the most famous international composers.

A historian will remark that at the celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Dvořák's birth during the Nazi occupation in 1941 the concert of his compositions turned into a spontaneous demonstration against the occupying power.

Some can admire the composer as a teacher who left us a generation of excellent pupils such as Josef Suk and Oskar Nedbal. And a music lover? For him music itself was most important.

I like it very much, too, and besides I admire Dvořák's work in its international context. It fascinates me how this ingenious Czech artist could draw inspiration from far across the ocean in America and gain also the hearts of numerous music lovers today, for example in Japan, a country so different in its cultural tradition. It is my sincere wish that this gift be given to other Czechs, be they artists, scientists, politicians, businessmen or craftsmen.

I have always been proud of the nation I come from, of the generations of our ancestors. I believe I will also be proud of the generations to whom Europe and the world open on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2004.



**Vladimír Špidla**  
**Prime Minister of the Czech Republic**

## THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE OF THE PARLIAMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC

Antonín Dvořák was not lost to the world. Neither as a musician, nor as a Czech. In the great "new" world of that time he realised that he "will remain what he has always been – an ordinary Czech musician." Only those are lost to the world who truckle to it in most cases for lack of skills and confidence. Besides, we are now opening ourselves to the world to be more, not less, at home, so that we could hear from afar the melodies of home we cannot hear any more if we get stuck in the kitchen. Does not the sound of our home come to us from the other end of the world in "The New World Symphony"? Antonín Dvořák has always been and will be an encouragement for the journey of our quest. The journey into the world whose centre, however, is home.



**Petr Pithart**  
President of the Senate  
of the Parliament of the Czech Republic



## THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC

The role of Antonín Dvořák among Czech ambassadors in the international cultural and social field is irreplaceable. Thanks to his work abroad together with his deep attachment to his native country he combined the traditional tones of many nations not only in the beautiful Symphony "From the New World" but in his other works, too, thus gaining the hearts of people all over the world. So it is more than significant that on 1<sup>st</sup> May, the day of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his death, the Czech Republic is joining the European Union, joining the imaginary orchestra of European nations, which are tuning their instruments to play a new symphony of the common Europe.

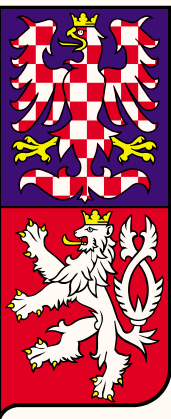


**Cyril Svoboda**  
Deputy Prime Minister  
and Minister of Foreign Affairs  
of the Czech Republic



# UNDER THE AUSPICES OF

## THE MINISTER OF CULTURE OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC



What else can be said about Antonín Dvořák – our most famous and most often played composer, well known during his life already, an ambassador of Czech culture in Europe and America over a century ago. It is a lucky coincidence that the tribute we pay to him every year on the day of his death will be even more solemn due to the fact that 1<sup>st</sup> May 2004 is a historic day for our country. I am glad that Antonín Dvořák will symbolically become our first ambassador in the united Europe, an ambassador who will be understood without an interpreter by its every citizen.

**Pavel Dostál**  
Minister of Culture of the Czech Republic

## THE CAPITAL CITY OF PRAGUE

Many topical parallels may be drawn from the life and work of Antonín Dvořák. Nevertheless, the relation "Dvořák – Europe – the world" is outstandingly expressed by the *genius loci* of Prague. Who else but the *genius loci* could arrange such symbolic meetings – Dvořák played the same organ as Ludwig van Beethoven before him, whose portrait hung over Dvořák's desk. Where else but in Prague could Dvořák, Josef Suk and Rodin's pupil Mařatka live in one and the same house. Only in Prague is it possible that Dvořák played in the house where the Czech national anthem was composed and where the poet Čelakovský lived. Are great words and deep parallels necessary? Prague itself, its people and history, prove that we have always belonged to the European community, and 1<sup>st</sup> May 2004 is a sincere celebration of one of those who contributed most to that fact.



**Pavel Bém**  
Mayor of the City of Prague



# czech music | 2004

## *An integral part of European culture*

A Czech Ministry of Culture programme that aims to support important projects associated with Czech music in 2004, with a special focus on presentation of the Czech Republic during the year of its accession to the European Union.

Under the auspice of President of the Czech Republic, Mr. Václav Klaus, and Mrs. Viviane Reding, an European Commission Member Responsible for Education and Culture.

### Patrons:

Gabriela Beňačková – *soprano*

Petr Eben – *composer*

Sir Charles Mackerras – *conductor, GB*

Jiří Stivín – *flautist*

Josef Suk – *violinist*

Miloš Štědroň – *composer, musicologist*

### INFORMATION CENTRE

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Phone: + 420 224 809 195, Fax: + 420 224 811 452

Internet: <http://www.czechmusic.org>



In 2004, the Czech Republic celebrates more than sixty anniversaries of outstanding Czech composers, some renowned performers as well as several music organisations. Traditionally, the musical public immediately recognize that years ending in the numeral four are considered to be a “years of Czech music”.

### SELECTIVE VIEW OF ANNIVERSARIES

František Václav MÍČA (1694 – 1744)

Bedřich SMETANA (1824 – 1884)

Leoš JANÁČEK (1854 – 1928)

Antonín DVORÁK (1841 – 1904)

Bohuslav MARTINŮ (1890 – 1959)

Rafael KUBELÍK (1914 – 1996)

Milada ŠUBRTOVÁ (1924)

Eva OLMEROVÁ (1934 – 1993)

Prague Symphony Orchestra (1934)

Janáček Philharmonic Orchestra (1954)





# Přední díla ve špičkové interpretaci

## :: Artefakty

| KAŽDÝ DEN KROMĚ NEDĚLE 20.00–22.45 HODIN

Přímé přenosy koncertů a opery, rozhlasové hry, dokumenty.

## :: Matiné, Pasticcio, Trylek, Hudební galerie

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MUSEUM OF ANTONÍN DVOŘÁK  
ANTONÍN DVOŘÁK SOCIETY

THE PROJECT IS SUPPORTED FINANCIALLY BY

THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE



2004

česká hudba | czech music



## PROJECT PARTNER



ČEZ

## MEDIA PARTNERS



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