

Do Czechs really sell their brides? Music in Czech cultural heritage

5HD280 From Kafka to Havel
Lecture 11

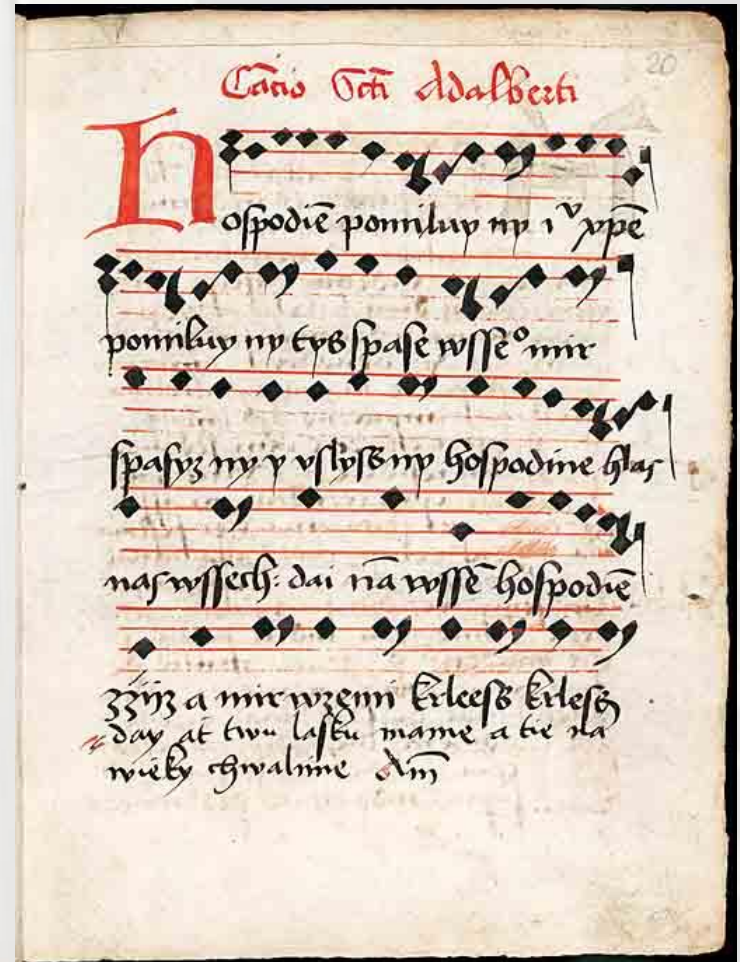


EVROPSKÁ UNIE
Evropské strukturální a investiční fondy
Operační program Výzkum, vývoj a vzdělávání

MŠMT
MINISTERSTVO ŠKOLSTVÍ,
MLÁDEŽE A TĚLOVÝCHOVY

The oldest music

- Since the early times
- Hospodine pomiluj ny
 - From late 10th century or early 11th
 - First mention: coronation of prince Spytihněv (1055)
 - Written record: late 14th century
 - John Hus had it sung after sermons



Lord, have mercy on us

Lord, have mercy on us

Lord, have mercy on us,
Jesus Christ, have mercy on us,
Savior of the whole world,
have mercy on us and hear,
O Lord, our voices;
Lord, give to all of us
life and peace in our land,
life and peace in our land.

Kyrie Eleison !

The oldest music

- Svatý Václave, vévodo české země
 - Prob. From 12th century or 13th century
 - prayer
 - Written form is from the 14th century
 - Additional strophes were added in 15th century
 - Very popular for many centuries



Medieval music

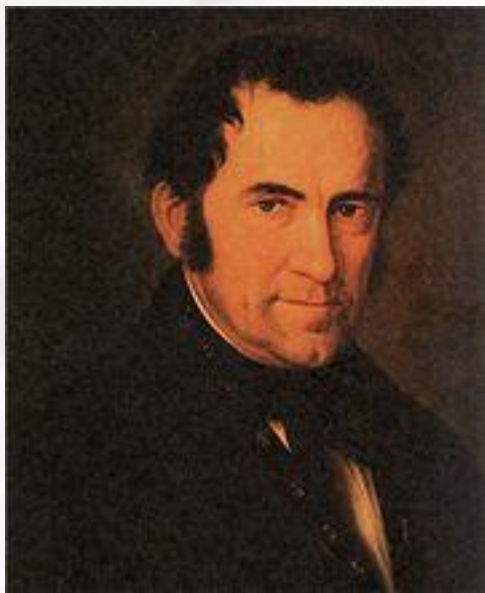
- Influenced by German and French composers and singers
 - Charles IV. Was connected with French culture
 - Guillaume de Machaut was at court of his father John Blind
- Knights culture
 - Troubadours and minnesängers
- First appearances of secular music
 - Dance music and love songs for example
 - First records of music of lower classes



Baroque in Czech music

- Focus on spiritual and religious topics prevailed
- Most important composers
 - Václav Michna z Otradovic
 - Czech Lute
 - Jan Dismas Zelenka
 - The most important are his late masses
 - Jan Jakub Ryba
 - Czech Christmas Mass
- All of them were influenced by Czech folk tradition and they used it in their compositions
 - since Michna z Otradovic it was an important characteristic of Czech music

Baroque in Czech music



Václav Michna z Otradovic (1600–1676)



Jan Dismas Zelenka (1679–1745)



Jan Jakub Ryba (1765–1815)

Classical period

Prelude – establishing theatres:

- Beginning of 17th Invention of opera
 - Monteverdi
- Late 18th century: Nostitz Theatre was build
 - 1787 First performance of Mozart's opera Don Giovanni conducted by Mozart himself
 - Since 1820's also Czech performances were played here

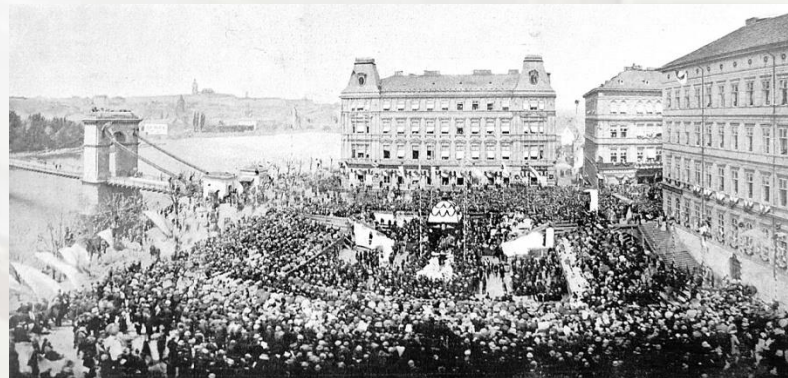
Theatre of the Estates



National Theatre

- Since 1844 attempts to build true Czech Theatre
- 1868 foundation stone was laid
- Aug. 12th 1881 Grand opening with Smetana's opera Libuše
 - But shortly after that big fire broke out
 - The Theatre was reopened in 1883

National Theatre



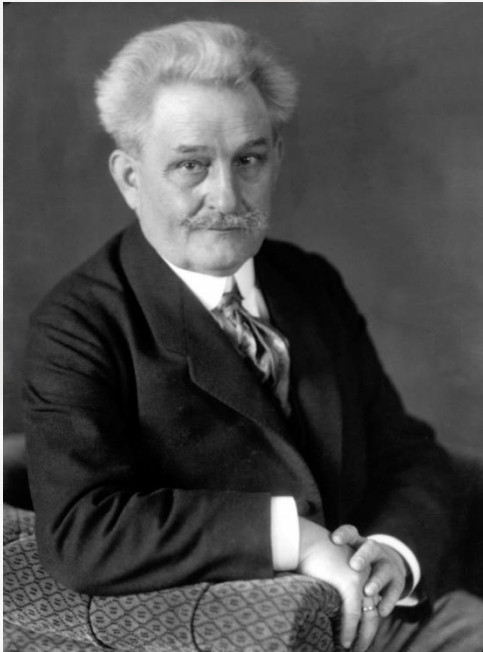
German Theatre

- Firstly opened in 1888 with Wagner's opera Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg (The Mastersingers of Nuremberg)
- During its existence many famous musicians and composers performed there
 - For example Gustav Mahler
- In September 1938 building was sold to the Czechoslovak state (today it is State opera Prague)

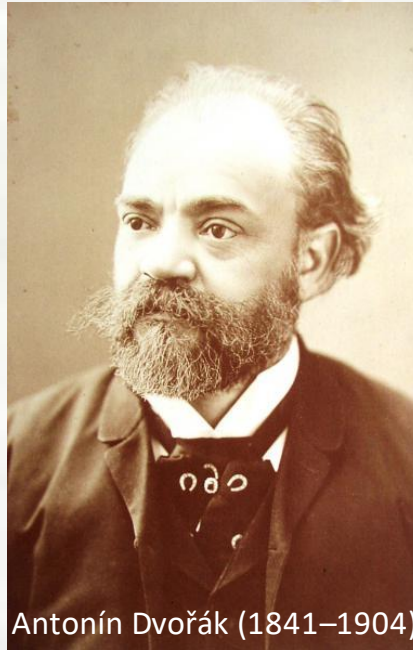
German Theatre



Czech (Bohemian) classics



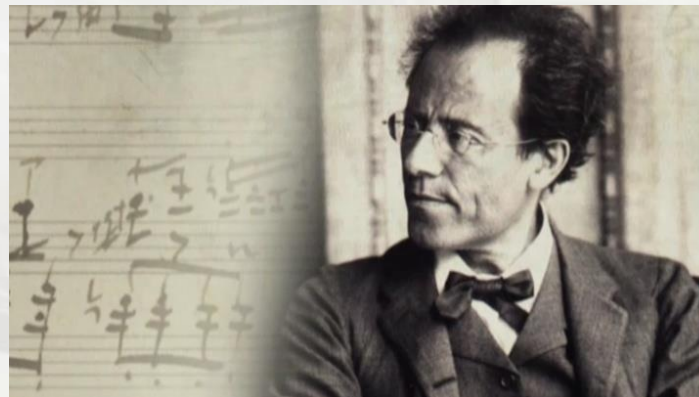
Leoš Janáček (1854–1928)



Antonín Dvořák (1841–1904)



Bedřich Smetana (1824–1884)



Gustav Mahler (1860–1911)

Bedřich Smetana

- Was born in Litomyšl in 1824
- He played piano which he taught also
- Was influenced by Ferenc Liszt and R. Wagner
- In 1874 he became completely deaf
- Work:
 - Má vlast (My country) (1874–1879)
 - Prodaná nevěsta (Bartered Bride) (1864–66)



Antonín Dvořák

- The most known Czech composer
- He was born in Nelahozeves
- He was organist and composer
- Influenced by Beethoven and Schubert
- Used folk motives
- In 1892–1895 he was a director of the National Conservatory of Music in New York
- Work:
 - Slavonic dances
 - Symphony no. 9, From the New World



DR. DVORAK'S GREAT SYMPHONY.

"From the New World" Heard for the First Time at the Philharmonic, Bohemia.


ABOUT THE SALIENT BEAUTIES.

First Movement the Most Tragical, Second the Most Beautiful, Third the Most Original.

INSPIRED BY INDIAN MUSIC

The Director of the National Conservatory Adds a Masterpiece to Musical Literature.

MR. HISS LEADING THE NEW DVORAK SYMPHONY.



DR. DVORAK'S GREAT SYMPHONY.

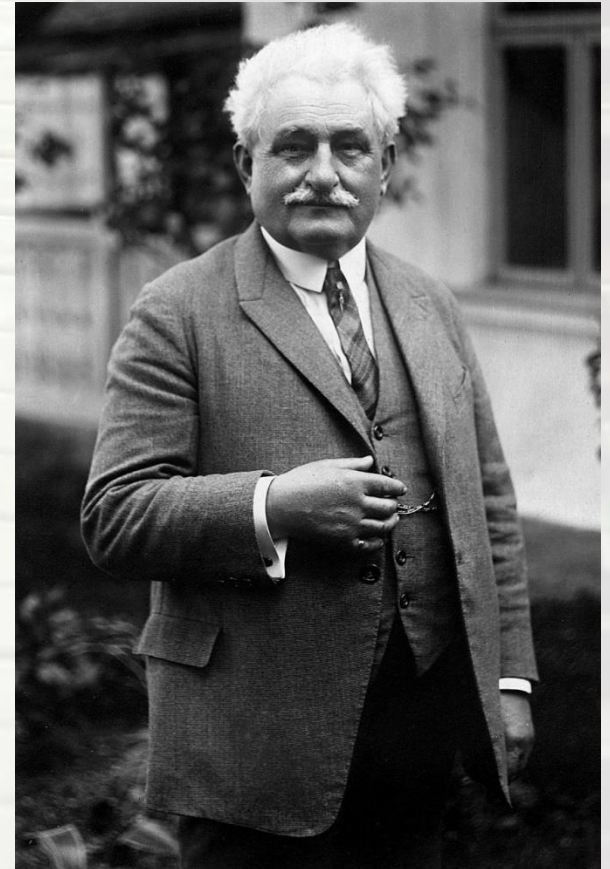
The first of the two movements of the new symphony is a grand and noble work, and the second is a beautiful and original composition. The third movement is a masterpiece of originality and beauty. The fourth movement is a grand and noble work, and the fifth is a beautiful and original composition. The sixth movement is a masterpiece of originality and beauty. The seventh movement is a grand and noble work, and the eighth is a beautiful and original composition. The ninth movement is a masterpiece of originality and beauty. The tenth movement is a grand and noble work, and the eleventh is a beautiful and original composition. The twelfth movement is a masterpiece of originality and beauty. The thirteenth movement is a grand and noble work, and the fourteenth is a beautiful and original composition. The fifteenth movement is a masterpiece of originality and beauty. The sixteenth movement is a grand and noble work, and the seventeenth is a beautiful and original composition. The eighteenth movement is a masterpiece of originality and beauty. The nineteenth movement is a grand and noble work, and the twentieth is a beautiful and original composition. The twenty-first movement is a masterpiece of originality and beauty. The twenty-second movement is a grand and noble work, and the twenty-third is a beautiful and original composition. The twenty-fourth movement is a masterpiece of originality and beauty. The twenty-fifth movement is a grand and noble work, and the twenty-sixth is a beautiful and original composition. The twenty-seventh movement is a masterpiece of originality and beauty. The twenty-eighth movement is a grand and noble work, and the twenty-ninth is a beautiful and original composition. The thirtieth movement is a masterpiece of originality and beauty. The thirty-first movement is a grand and noble work, and the thirty-second is a beautiful and original composition. The thirty-third movement is a masterpiece of originality and beauty. The thirty-fourth movement is a grand and noble work, and the thirty-fifth is a beautiful and original composition. The thirty-sixth movement is a masterpiece of originality and beauty. The thirty-seventh movement is a grand and noble work, and the thirty-eighth is a beautiful and original composition. The thirty-ninth movement is a masterpiece of originality and beauty. The fortieth movement is a grand and noble work, and the forty-first is a beautiful and original composition. The forty-second movement is a masterpiece of originality and beauty. The forty-third movement is a grand and noble work, and the forty-fourth is a beautiful and original composition. The forty-fifth movement is a masterpiece of originality and beauty. The forty-sixth movement is a grand and noble work, and the forty-seventh is a beautiful and original composition. The forty-eighth movement is a masterpiece of originality and beauty. The forty-ninth movement is a grand and noble work, and the fiftieth is a beautiful and original composition. The fifty-first movement is a masterpiece of originality and beauty. The fifty-second movement is a grand and noble work, and the fifty-third is a beautiful and original composition. The fifty-fourth movement is a masterpiece of originality and beauty. The fifty-fifth movement is a grand and noble work, and the fifty-sixth is a beautiful and original composition. The fifty-seventh movement is a masterpiece of originality and beauty. The fifty-eighth movement is a grand and noble work, and the fifty-ninth is a beautiful and original composition. The sixtieth movement is a masterpiece of originality and beauty. The sixty-first movement is a grand and noble work, and the sixty-second is a beautiful and original composition. The sixty-third movement is a masterpiece of originality and beauty. 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The eighty-first movement is a grand and noble work, and the eighty-second is a beautiful and original composition. The eighty-third movement is a masterpiece of originality and beauty. The eighty-fourth movement is a grand and noble work, and the eighty-fifth is a beautiful and original composition. The eighty-seventh movement is a masterpiece of originality and beauty. The eighty-eighth movement is a grand and noble work, and the eighty-ninth is a beautiful and original composition. The ninetieth movement is a masterpiece of originality and beauty. The ninety-first movement is a grand and noble work, and the ninety-second is a beautiful and original composition. The ninety-third movement is a masterpiece of originality and beauty. The ninety-fourth movement is a grand and noble work, and the ninety-fifth is a beautiful and original composition. The ninety-seventh movement is a masterpiece of originality and beauty. The ninety-eighth movement is a grand and noble work, and the ninety-ninth is a beautiful and original composition. The hundredth movement is a masterpiece of originality and beauty.



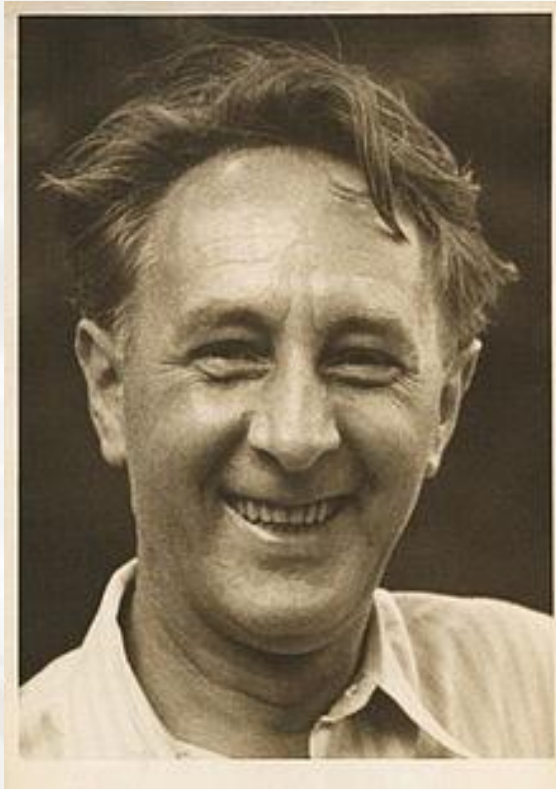
DR. DVORAK'S GREAT SYMPHONY.

Leoš Janáček

- Was born in 1854 in Hukvaldy (North Moravia)
- Studied in Leipzig and Vienna
- Inspired by Moravian folk music
- Work
 - Operas: *Káťa Kabanová*, *The Cunning Little Vixen*, *Diary of One Who Disappeared*
 - Instrumental: *Sinfonietta*, *Taras Bulba*, *The Kreutzer Sonata*
 - Mass: *Glagolitic Mass*



20th Century music



Bohuslav Martinů (1890–1959)



Alois Hába (1893–1973)

Bohuslav Martinů

- Born in 1890 in Polička
- Against romanticism, inspired by new currents in world art (impressionism, expressionism) and by other musical styles, especially jazz
- With the outbreak of war he left the country
- Work:
 - Operas: Juliette ou la Clé de songes, Greek Passions
 - Instrumental: Symphonic Fantasies (6th)
 - Cantatas: Opening of Wells



Alois Hába

- Was born in 1893 in Vizovice
- Famous for microtonal compositions
- Before WWI he Studied in Prague and worked in Vienna where he met for example Arnold Schönberg
- Work:
 - Operas: Mother, New Land
 - nonets



Music Festivals

- Prague Spring
 - Since 1946
 - From May 12th to June 4th
 - Different kind of classical music
- Contempuls
 - Since 2008
 - Focus on most recent music



Czech folk music

- Changed through time
- Most songs we know are from 18th and 19th century
- Regionally differentiated
- The most known are songs from Moravia
- Many of the songs are connected with war (recruitment, loss of beloved etc.), economic activities, love etc.

Czech folk music

Brass music and brass bands

- Specific combination of folk and classical music
- Includes folk songs as well as military march pieces and other original compositions
- Most famous Czech authors:
 - František Kmoch
 - Julius Fučík – Vjezd gladiátorů (Entry of Gladiators)
 - Jaromír Vejvoda – Škoda lásky (Beer Barrel Polka, Rosamunde)

Brass music



Julius Fučík (1872–1916)



Jaromír Vejvoda (1902–1988)



František Kmoč (1848–1912)

Popular Music in the 20th century

- It has different forms in each of the period
- It is influenced mostly by American music
- In the interwar period it is affected by jazz and swing
- In the second half of the century mostly based on folk and country music and various forms of rock and pop music
- But it retains also domestic folk tradition

Jaroslav Ježek

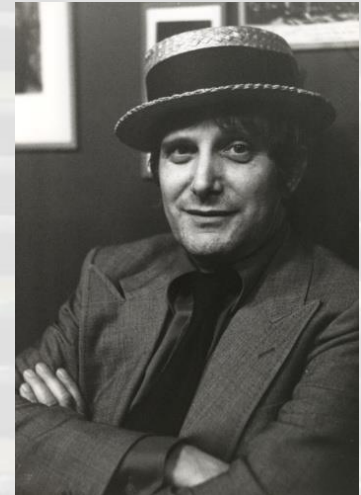
- Born in 1906 in Prague
- Collaborated with Jiří Voskovec and Jan Werich and their Osvobozené divadlo (Liberated Theatre)
- Inspired by jazz
- Died very young because of many illnesses



Jaroslav Ježek (1906–1941)

Suchý & Šlitr

- Suchý met Šlitr in 1956
- Theatre Semafor
 - Established in 1959
 - In tradition of Liberated Theatre
 - Integrated various forms of art
 - Since 1964 was placed in Alfa Palace on Wenceslas sq.
- Works:
 - Zuzana není pro nikoho doma (Susan is not at Home for Anyone)
 - Zuzana je všude doma (Susan is at Home Everywhere)
 - Člověk z půdy (Man from the Loft)



Jiří Suchý (1931)



Jiří Šlitr (1924–1969)

Rock & Pop

- Since late 1950's
- Explosion in the 1960's
 - Matadors, Blue Effect, Flamengo, Olympic
- During the normalization it was restricted and only official one, conformal with prevailing values and subordinated to state authorities was allowed
 - Renewed Olympic, Katapult
- In 1980's greater room for so called grey zone
 - New styles appeared (punk, new wave, heavy metal or cross-style alternatives
 - Iva Bittová for example)

Rock & Pop

- Since the sixties the most popular pop singer is Karel Gott
- Some singers were banned after 1968 and especially if they left the country (Waldemar Matuška) or signed Charter 77 (Marta Kubišová)

Rock & Pop

Underground:

- Some bands or singers were banned and played illegally
- The most known are the Plastic People of the Universe and Dg. 307

Folk singers

- There were two categories of singers
- Official and unofficial (banned)
- Banned singers could be classified as protest singers
 - Karel Kryl
 - Vladimír Merta
 - Vlastimil Třešňák
 - Jaroslav Hutka



Music Festivals

Folk music:

- International folk festival Strážnice
 - Since 1946
 - Last week in June
- Porta
 - Focused on country & western
 - Since 1967
 - Different places (mostly Ústí nad Labem and Pilsen)



Music Festivals

Rock & Pop:

- Trutnov Open Air Festival
 - Since 1987
 - In August
- Colours of Ostrava
 - Since 2002
 - In mid July
 - Firstly around street Stodolní
 - Different kinds of music





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