

# Antonin Dvorak

(ann-toh-noon duh-VOR-zhahk)

1841 – 1904



- Dvorak was born in a small village in Bohemia, now in the Czech Republic.
- He learned the violin and played in the village band with his father. At 13 he went to live with an uncle to learn German, where he also had lessons on the violin, viola, piano and organ.
- At 16 he went to Prague for music school. After graduating he taught music, composed and played with small bands and a theater orchestra.
- At 50 he came to the United States to teach. In his travels around the country he discovered a love for Native American and African American music.
- He felt a strong attachment to his country and his musical roots. He thought of himself as a “simple Czech musician.” He bred pigeons, was fascinated by trains, and loved to wander in the woods.
- Dvorak’s music was popular with his countrymen, and became well known and loved by people everywhere.
- Dvorak composed 9 symphonies, 7 concertos, 32 orchestral works, 11 operas, 10 oratorios, 50 chamber pieces, 31 piano pieces, 1 organ piece, 20 songs, 7 arrangements of other composers, and dozens of unfinished and lost works.



Listen to Symphony No. 9  
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