

BOSTON
SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA

FOUNDED IN 1881 BY
HENRY LEE HIGGINSON



SEVENTY-FOURTH SEASON

1954-1955

Hill Auditorium, Ann Arbor
Wednesday Evening, October 20

SEVENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL CHORAL UNION CONCERT SERIES, OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
AUSPICES UNIVERSITY MUSICAL SOCIETY

Boston Symphony Orchestra

(Seventy-fourth Season, 1954-1955)

CHARLES MUNCH, *Music Director*

RICHARD BURGIN, *Associate Conductor*

PERSONNEL

VIOLINS

Richard Burgin,
Concert-master
Alfred Krips
George Zazofsky
Roland Tapley
Norbert Lauga
Vladimir Resnikoff
Harry Dickson
Gottfried Wilfinger
Einar Hansen
Joseph Leibovici
Emil Kornsand
Roger Shermont
Paul Fedorovsky
Carlos Pinfield
Minot Beale
Herman Silberman
Stanley Benson
Leo Panasevich
Sheldon Rotenberg
Fredy Ostrovsky

Clarence Knudson
Pierre Mayer
Manuel Zung
Samuel Diamond
Victor Manusevitch
James Nagy
Melvin Bryant
Raphael Del Sordo
Lloyd Stonestreet
Saverio Messina
William Waterhouse
William Marshall
Leonard Moss
Jesse Ceci

BASSES
Georges Moleux
Willis Page
Ludwig Juht
Irving Frankel
Henry Freeman
Henry Portnoi
Gaston Dufresne
Henri Girard
John Barwicki

VIOLAS

Joseph de Pasquale
Jean Cauhapé
Eugen Lehner
Albert Bernard
George Humphrey
Jerome Lipson
Robert Karol
Louis Artières
Reuben Green
Bernard Kadinoff
Vincent Mauricci
John Fiasca

VIOLONCELLOS

Samuel Mayes
Alfred Zighera
Jacobus Langendoen
Mischa Nieland
Karl Zeise
Josef Zimpler
Bernard Parronchi
Leon Marjolle
Martin Hoherman
Louis Berger

FLUTES

Doriot Anthony Dwyer
James Pappoutsakis
Phillip Kaplan

PICCOLO

George Madsen

OBOES

Ralph Gomberg
Jean Devergie
John Holmes

ENGLISH HORN

Louis Speyer

CLARINETS

Gino Cioffi
Manuel Valerio
Pasquale Cardillo
E♭ Clarinet

BASS CLARINET

Rosario Mazzeo

BASSOONS

Sherman Walt
Ernst Panenka
Theodore Brewster

CONTRA-BASSOON

Richard Plaster

HORNS

James Stagliano
Charles Yancich
Harry Shapiro
Harold Meek
Paul Keaney
Osbourne McConathy
Walter Macdonald

TRUMPETS

Roger Voisin
Marcel Lafosse
Armando Ghitalla
Gerard Goguen

TROMBONES

Jacob Raichman
William Moyer
Kauko Kahila
Josef Orosz

TUBA

K. Vinal Smith

HARPS

Bernard Zighera
Olivia Luetcke

TIMPANI

Roman Szulc
Everett Firth

PERCUSSION

Charles Smith
Harold Farberman
Harold Thompson

LIBRARIANS

Leslie Rogers
Victor Alpert, Ass't

Hill Auditorium [*University of Michigan*] Ann Arbor

SEVENTY-FOURTH SEASON, 1954-1955

Boston Symphony Orchestra

CHARLES MUNCH, *Music Director*

RICHARD BURGIN, *Associate Conductor*

Concert Bulletin

WEDNESDAY EVENING, *October 20*

with historical and descriptive notes by

JOHN N. BURK

THE TRUSTEES OF THE BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, INC.

HENRY B. CABOT . *President*

JACOB J. KAPLAN . *Vice-President*

RICHARD C. PAINE . *Treasurer*

TALCOTT M. BANKS, JR.

C. D. JACKSON

JOHN NICHOLAS BROWN

MICHAEL T. KELLEHER

THEODORE P. FERRIS

PALFREY PERKINS

ALVAN T. FULLER

CHARLES H. STOCKTON

FRANCIS W. HATCH

EDWARD A. TAFT

HAROLD D. HODGKINSON

RAYMOND S. WILKINS

OLIVER WOLCOTT

TRUSTEES EMERITUS

PHILIP R. ALLEN

M. A. DEWOLFE HOWE

N. PENROSE HALLOWELL

LEWIS PERRY

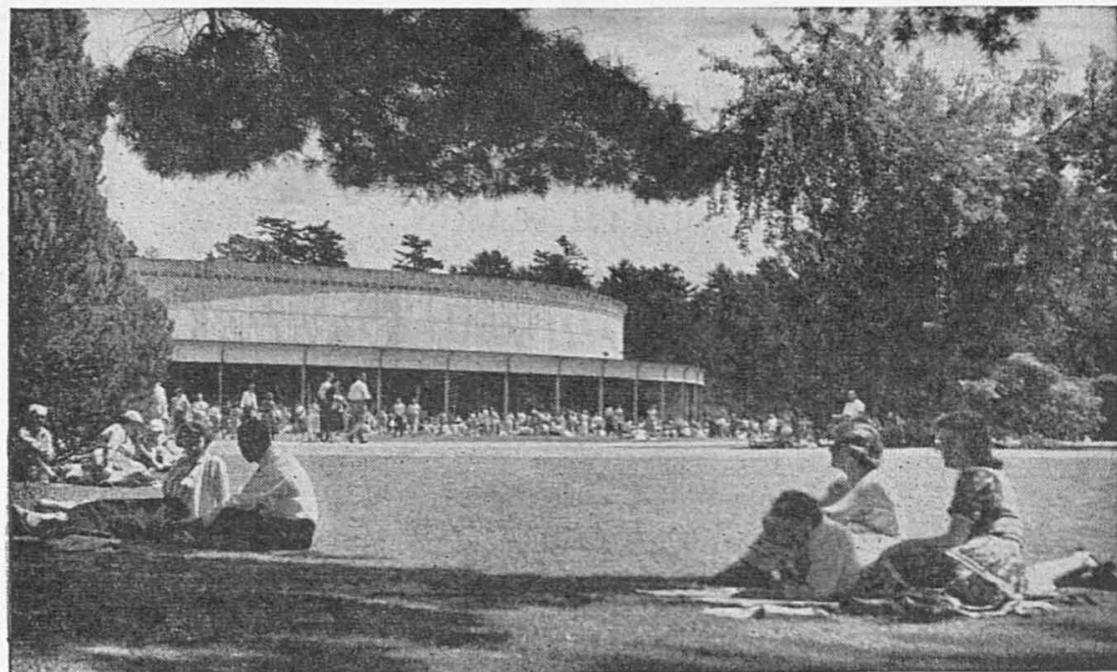
THOMAS D. PERRY, JR., *Manager*

G. W. RECTOR } *Assistant*

J. J. BROSNAHAN, *Assistant Treasurer*

N. S. SHIRK } *Managers*

ROSARIO MAZZEO, *Personnel Manager*



TANGLEWOOD 1955

The

Boston Symphony Orchestra

CHARLES MUNCH, *Music Director*

The Berkshire Festival

Eighteenth Season

CHARLES MUNCH, *Conductor*

The Berkshire Music Center

Thirteenth Season

CHARLES MUNCH, *Director*

To receive further announcements, write to
Festival Office, Symphony Hall, Boston

Hill Auditorium [*University of Michigan*] Ann Arbor

Boston Symphony Orchestra

CHARLES MUNCH, *Music Director*

WEDNESDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 20, at 8:30 o'clock

Program

BACH Suite No. 4, in D major

Overture
Gavotte
Minuets I and II
Réjouissance

DVOŘÁK Symphony No. 5, in E minor,
(1841-1904) "From the New World," *Op.* 95

I. Adagio; Allegro molto
II. Largo
III. Scherzo: Molto vivace
IV. Allegro con fuoco

INTERMISSION

BERLIOZ Excerpts from "Romeo and Juliet,"
Dramatic Symphony, *Op.* 17

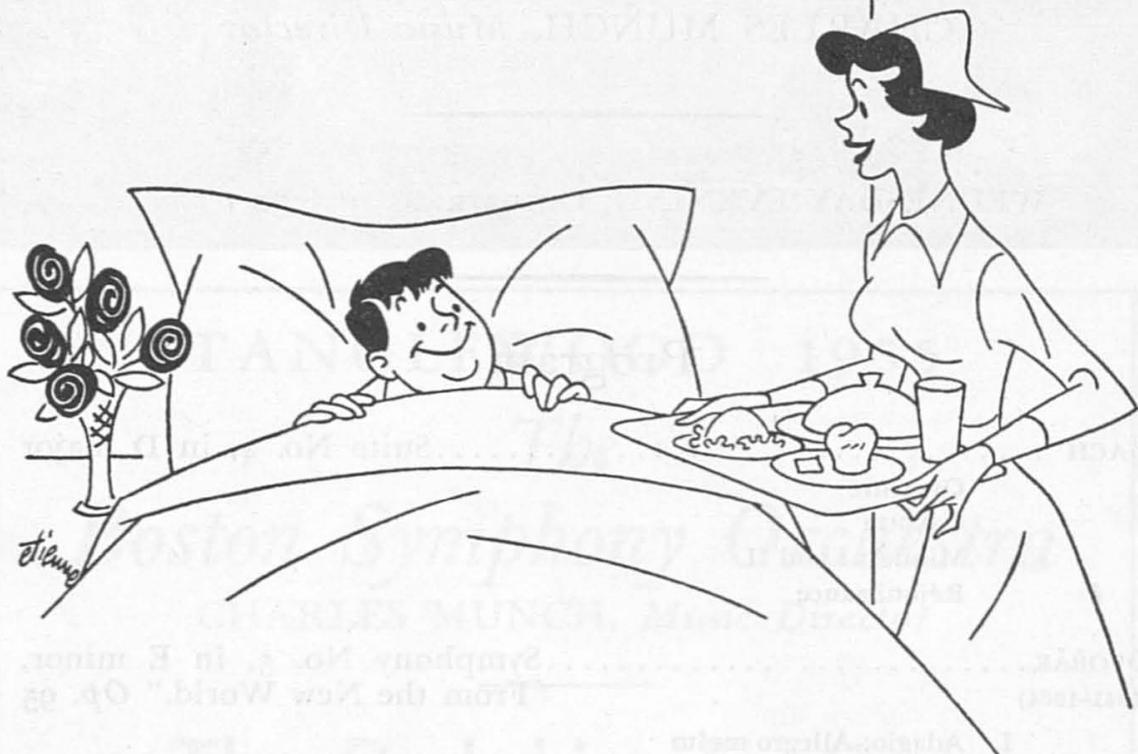
Love Scene: Serene Night — The Capulets' Garden Silent and Deserted
Queen Mab, the Fairy of Dreams
Romeo alone — Melancholy — Concert and Ball — Great Feast at the
Capulets'

Concerts by this orchestra in Boston will be broadcast on
Saturdays 8:30-9:30 E.S.T. on the NBC Network.

BALDWIN PIANO

RCA VICTOR RECORDS

We'll pay you
or the
hospital...



to substantially reduce the cost of your room and board . . . and certain other hospital expenses. This will help to diminish the drain on your pocketbook while you're getting well — provided you've got Employers' Group Hospital insurance. Get in touch with your Employers' Group agent, today.

The EMPLOYERS' GROUP
Insurance Companies



THE EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ASSURANCE CORP. LTD.
AMERICAN EMPLOYERS' INSURANCE CO.
THE EMPLOYERS' FIRE INSURANCE CO.

110 MILK ST.
BOSTON 7, MASS.

For Fire, Casualty and Marine Insurance or Fidelity and Surety Bonds,
see your local Employers' Group Agent, The Man With The Plan

THE MUSIC MAKER FROM BOHEMIA

(On May 1 last, 50 years had passed since the death of Antonin Dvořák in Prague.)

“**Y**ou are not speaking to a demigod!” wrote Dvořák to an admirer who had sent him a worshipful letter at the height of his fame. “I am a very simple person to whom such expressions of exaggerated modesty as yours are entirely inappropriate. I remain what I was: a plain and simple Bohemian *Musikant*.”

This is a perfect self-description. Dvořák, as a boy and as a young man, lived in the tradition of the small tradesman who was handy at music making, at playing the violin, viola or organ when the occasion offered. When his father, who was an innkeeper and butcher, discouraged the idea of music as a principal profession, young Dvořák spent the larger part of a year behind a butcher's block, exchanging civilities with housewives.

Among the most valuable pages of Paul Stefan's life of Dvořák* are those in his introduction which describe the “Bohemian *Musikant*” as a type: “Picture him to yourself, this fiddler, clarinettist, trombone-player, or what have you, sitting at a table, probably in some rustic inn-garden, with his glass of beer before him, having enjoyed a hearty meal of coarse but savory Bohemian food. Suddenly the spirit moves him, he is transformed into an artist. There follows inevitably the full flood of melody, unfailing rhythm, infectious temperament. Nobody and nothing can withstand this thralldom. . . . Listening to him, you could see the forest, the fields, the village with its people, the geese on the pond, the peasant children, the organist, the school-teacher, the priest, the authorities, the gentry—all that early world of a lovable, unspoiled people.”

It is not only the Dvořák of his younger days that fits this description. The career which took him back and forth to distant parts and made him a principal figure in the musical world did not in the least alter his character. He was never changed by success, money or general adulation. When he was a revered professor at the National Conservatory of Music in New York, the “great man” disarmed his pupils by talking to them as if he were one of them. In his last years he was director of the Prague Conservatory. It was arranged that his assistant, Knittl, should relieve him of administrative burdens. Dvořák, wishing to go to his country place, would ask Knittl for permission.

He never acquired the “front” of a celebrity, nor lived in the

* Published by the Greystone Press, this biography makes full use of the early biography by Otakar Sourek (which has never been translated into English).

grandeur he could easily have had. When, in 1884, the firm of Novello in London offered him £2000 for a new oratorio, an unheard-of amount of money, he bought some wooded ground with a one-story house at Vysoká, where he could spend his summers roaming the woods and composing. He would walk to the little mining town near by and sit among the villagers at the local inn, taking part in their conversation. He was an ardent breeder of pigeons. If someone made the mistake of serving squab at a dinner, he would leave the table. When he lived in New York, he fled hotel life for a simple apartment, where he would sit in the kitchen to compose, liking to be in the midst of the domestic sounds of pots and pans or chattering children. He would spend hours in the Café Boulevard on Second Avenue, reading the latest newspaper from home and growling to himself over the stupidity of the Prague Parliament. Locomotives and steamboats fascinated him as they would fascinate a boy. It is told how at Prague he used to haunt the railroad yards to make note of the locomotives. Busy with a class, he once sent Joseph Suk, who then hoped to marry his daughter, to write down the number of a locomotive which had just come in. Suk brought him back a number which he recognized as the number of the tender, and he exclaimed, "This is what I am expected to accept as a son-in-law!" In New York, since he could not gain access to the railway platforms without a ticket, he would go to the uptown station to watch the trains pass. When the school term ended in New York, he went as far west as Spillville, Iowa, to find a counterpart for his beloved Vysoká at home. In this small and extremely remote town of Bohemian settlers he tried to duplicate his life at home, taking walks, going to church, where he played the organ, and exchanging views with his neighbors. He was delighted to find that the local butcher had also the name of Dvořák. He was much beloved in the town and addressed by a Czechish term which could be translated as "Squire Dvořák."

This way of life was neither affectation, nor "back to the people" fanaticism, nor yet miserliness. It was quite genuine. Dvořák remained what he was — a Bohemian villager, simple-hearted, childlike in his



faith and in his optimism, enjoying homely country pleasures and wanting no others. Bülow, who became one of his ardent apostles, referred to him as "Caliban" and described him as "a genius who looks like a tinker."

He had the religious faith of a child. Completing a manuscript score, he never failed to write at the end, "Thank God." When his publisher, Simrock, held out stubbornly for smaller works which were against his inclinations at the time, he ended a lengthy argument by writing, "I shall simply do what God imparts to me to do. That will certainly be the best thing."

There is something really remarkable in Dvořák's consistent naturalness through life in the face of the bustling aura of attention which surrounds a famous man. Applauding audiences, receptions, speeches, decorations delighted him up to a certain point, and beyond that point made him impatient and angry. He was extremely sensitive, emotionally quick, and his rage, his tears, his jubilation were always near the surface. His latest biographer tells an incident which followed a Festival of his works at Prague in 1901: "While he was being detained at home through a ruse, a festive parade marched up to his house, a corps of singers entered the courtyard and serenaded him. He was compelled — at the cost of considerable effort — to appear at the window and thank them. In a towering rage, although affected to tears, when they would not stop crying 'Long live Dvořák!' he roared, 'Tell them to stop shouting!'" A friend in New York would sometimes accompany him on a walk down town to the Battery, where he would gaze at the Atlantic horizon, stretch out his arms, and weep without restraint. When a pupil in composition once brought him a particularly bad exercise, he burst out impatiently: "No one could write like that but a donkey!" The pupil, offended, began to walk out, but Dvořák called after him, "Come back; you aren't a donkey." He was fond of playing cards, but if he had a streak of bad luck, he would lose his temper and throw his cards in the air. His friend Kovařík in New York restored peace by offering to use his own winnings to send a doll to Dvořák's youngest daughter in Vysoká. He went to bed early, country fashion. He would often leave an opera or a concert performance or even a reception when his bedtime came. It was undoubtedly this persistence of a childlike nature that continued to produce music of a special distinguishing charm and fundamental directness.

It was through the award to him of the Austrian State Prize in 1877 that his music came to the attention of Brahms and Hanslick, who were among the judges. Both of them eagerly took up his cause in Vienna. Brahms wrote to his publisher, Simrock, under date of December 12, 1877, telling him, "I have been delighted with the

pieces by Anton Dvořák (pronounced Dvorshak) * of Prague." He spoke warmly of the cycle of Moravian duets and called his attention to other works. "At all events he is a very talented man. Besides, he is poor! I beg you to bear this in mind. These duets will tell you everything, and they should be a good 'selling article.'" The result of this was that Simrock at once published the vocal duets, and on the strength of the rising tide of Dvořák's popularity signed a contract with him with an option for life on his smaller works. The result was a greatly increased circulation of his music. Brahms proved a genuine friend. He gave him valuable advice, and while Dvořák was in America devoted many hours to the revision of his proofs. He tried to coax him to the faculty of the Conservatory at Vienna, with the intention of pitting him against Bruckner. This was part of an effort, in which he was backed by Hanslick, to line him up against the Wagner-Liszt party. Bülow, who conducted his music on many momentous occasions, also said biting things about Wagner, and Hanslick spoke his intention of walking out of a concert just before something of Bruckner was to be played. Dvořák, still possessing his simple common sense, refused to fall in with this species of musical party politics and bigotry. He called upon the despised Bruckner as he was working upon the Adagio of his Ninth Symphony and was much moved. Brahms undoubtedly led Dvořák into the stricter use of classical forms. But in his last years, he turned once more to Wagner's ways and composed "program" music in the form of operas and tone poems.

There was nothing cosmic about Dvořák. There was nothing revolutionary or even reconstructive about him. Music to him was a genuine heartfelt impulse, lyrical, communicative. Themes came to him at almost any time. If the fountain ceased now and then, he was not disturbed, but waited confidently for its return. The spontaneity of Dvořák with its buoyant invention was rare, and quickly made its way. The traditional structure conveniently contained it. He developed an apt sense of color without elaboration. The special flavor and freshness of his style gave it an aspect of modernity. The composer's desire to reach people of all sorts was to a degree realized. His popularity grew in steady strides. He made journey after journey to England, usually conducting a new oratorio for that oratorio-loving nation. The public crowded to his concerts by thousands, pounds sterling poured in upon him. Rosa Newmarch, who heard him when she was a little girl, remembered the excitement: "How freely inspired, spontaneous, and blithe it sounded to us mid-Victorians!" Speaking of the *Stabat Mater* and *The Spectre's Bride*

* But Dvořák preferred the native spelling of his given name — Antonín.

she wrote: "Only those, I think, who were already in the prime of their concert-going days in the far-off eighties can realize the extraordinary enthusiasm which was evoked by those works." The English audiences probably had the vaguest idea of "Bohemia." They may even still have supposed with Shakespeare that it had a coastline. As the charm of Dvořák captured and excited the musical world, it became Bohemia-conscious. America did its best to exceed England with an enthusiasm amounting to frenzy, and if Dvořák could not have been withheld from Prague and Vysoká for longer than he was, it was not through any lack of attention on these shores. Everything he composed was at once performed and excitedly approved. The public crowded to behold the bearded little "wild man" and to hear him conduct. When he gave his first concert in Carnegie Hall on October 21, 1892, there was enormous anticipation and excitement. Theodore Thomas received him in Chicago with open arms. He made a visit to Boston to conduct his *Requiem* as performed by the Cecilia Society in Music Hall on November 30, 1892. On the night before, there was a public rehearsal — a "Wage-Earners' Concert," it was called — for which "tickets were distributed to none but those earning \$15 a week or less."* This must have highly pleased the composer, who always argued that the laboring man should have access to concerts from which the price would usually exclude him. "Why should not the ordinary citizen," he wrote, "hard at work all week, be able to make the acquaintance of Bach and Beethoven?"

Dvořák implanted in America not only a new interest in his own people, but a new urge for the explicit development of an American style. There was a general ferment in favor of the immediate growth of serious American music from "folk" sources, and Dvořák was looked

* "These concerts," said the *Boston Herald*, "are not a charity. It would be superfluous to say that the audience was, in its appearance, creditable to Boston. The wage-earner of today is the wage-payer of tomorrow, just as the wage-payer of today was the wage-earner of yesterday."

NEW ENGLAND CONSERVATORY

Announces the commencement of Saturday Classes in its

PREPARATORY DEPARTMENT

For Children from age 5

For Young People to age 18

UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE DEAN OF THE CONSERVATORY

A comprehensive, integrated program of musical training

Senior Chorus • Junior Chorus • Senior Orchestra
 Classes in Songs and Rhythms • Fundamentals of Music
 Chamber Music Performance Classes • Piano Ensemble Classes

Each Class, \$15 per Semester

upon as the musical Messiah who from his own pen would bring this miracle to pass. He obligingly composed a cantata, "The American Flag," which proved quite dull. Mrs. Thurber made intensive efforts to obtain for him a libretto on Longfellow's "Hiawatha." The "New World" Symphony was the best answer he could give to these expectations. His article in *Harper's Magazine*, "Music in America," engendered endless argument.*

Dvořák reversed the case of the composer who must have been dead a half-century before the world grows fully aware of his music. He reaped his glory in full measure, but even in his last years that glory began to pale before the rising star of a Muscovite of higher incandescence.

* Philip Hale took a poke at this movement in the *Boston Journal*:

"It is possible that Mr. Dvořák will not think it necessary to visit the Colorado Canyon or a spouting geyser that he may be impelled to write music. He may search in the library of the music school for American melodies, folk songs, traditional tunes. Or he may go through the shelves of the music shops. Will any discovery whet his zeal? Here for instance is the opening of a popular American ditty:

'Mike Gilligan's a man well known in our ward,
He has lived there for many a year,
He was only a workman in Shaughnessy's yard,
Till they made him an overseer.'

"The melody suits the words; the whole 'machine' is characteristic of a phase of American life; but it is doubtful if it would suggest extraordinary thematic treatment to the composer of the 'Slavische Tänze'."

And yet the incredible seems to have happened with Dvořák — the spontaneous generation of music by scenery. He is said to have gazed, moved, upon the Falls of Minnehaha, and to have jotted a theme upon his starched cuff. It emerged in the slow movement of his *Violin Sonatina*. It was later used by Fritz Kreisler for his "Indian Lament."



COLLEGE OF MUSIC

A Division of the

BOSTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF FINE & APPLIED ARTS

ROBERT A. CHOATE, *Dean*

LEOPOLD STOKOWSKI WITH BOSTON UNIVERSITY CHORUS
AND ORCHESTRA

SYMPHONY HALL, Nov. 19 — CARNEGIE HALL, Nov. 21

— MASTER CLASSES & WORKSHOPS WITH —

Raphael Bronstein, Arthur Fiedler, Joseph Fuchs, Heinrich Gebhard,
Jules Wolfers, Carl Lamson, Paul Ulanowsky

25 BLAGDEN STREET, BOSTON 16

CO 6-6230

SUITE NO. 4 IN D MAJOR

By JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH

Born in Eisenach, March 21, 1685; died in Leipzig, July 28, 1750

This Suite is scored for 3 oboes, bassoon, 3 trumpets, timpani, and strings. There is in each of the suites a figured bass for the presiding harpsichordist.

BACH's four orchestral suites are usually attributed to the period (1717-23) in which he was Kapellmeister to the young Prince Leopold of Anhalt-Cöthen. Albert Schweitzer conjectures that they may belong to the subsequent Leipzig years, for Bach included them in the performances of the Telemann Musical Society, which he conducted from the years 1729 to 1736. But the larger part of his instrumental music belongs to the years at Cöthen where the prince not only patronized but practised this department of the art — it is said that he could acquit himself more than acceptably upon the violin, the viola da gamba, and the clavier. It was for the pleasure of his Prince that Bach composed most of his chamber music, half of the *Well-tempered Clavichord*, the inventions. Composing the six concertos for the Margraf of Brandenburg at this time, he very likely made copies of his manuscripts and performed them at Cöthen.

The suites, partitas, and "overtures," so titled, by Bach were no more than variants upon the suite form. When Bach labeled each of his orchestral suites as an "*ouverture*," there is no doubt that the French *ouverture* of Lully was in his mind. This composer, whom Bach closely regarded, had developed the operatic overture into a larger form with a slow introduction followed by a lively allegro of fugal character and a reprise. To this "overture" were sometimes added, even at operatic performances, a stately dance or two, such as were a customary and integral part of the operas of the period. These overtures, with several dance movements, were often performed at concerts, retaining the title of the more extended and impressive "opening" movement. Georg Muffat introduced the custom into Germany, and Bach followed him. Bach held to the formal outline of the French *ouverture*, but extended and elaborated it to his own purposes.

In the dance melodies of these suites, Albert Schweitzer has said "a fragment of a vanished world of grace and eloquence has been preserved for us. They are the ideal musical picture of the rococo period. Their charm resides in the perfection of their blending of strength and grace."

[COPYRIGHTED]

SYMPHONY NO. 5 IN E MINOR, "FROM THE NEW WORLD,"
Op. 95

By ANTONIN DVORÁK

Born at Mühlfhausen (Nelahozeves) near Kralup, Bohemia, September 8, 1841;
died at Prague, May 1, 1904

The Symphony "From the New World" ("Z Novecho Sveta") was composed in America in the years 1892 and 1893. It had its first performance by the Philharmonic Society of New York, December 15, 1893, Anton Seidl conducting. There was a performance by the Boston Symphony Orchestra on December 29 of the same year. The Symphony was published in 1894 and brought forth in Vienna under the direction of Hans Richter in 1895. There have been performances at the concerts of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, January 25, 1895, November 20, 1896, November 26, 1897, October 26, 1900, January 9, 1903, October 14, 1904, April 16, 1909, December 23, 1910, January 24, 1913, April 5, 1918, March 26, 1920, December 20, 1929, December 7, 1934, October 14, 1938, October 31, 1941, and December 26, 1947, when Eleazar de Carvalho conducted.

The Symphony is scored for 2 flutes and piccolo, 2 oboes and English horn, 2 clarinets, 2 bassoons, 4 horns, 2 trumpets, 3 trombones and tuba, timpani, triangle, cymbals, and strings.

WHEN Dvořák, as a famous composer and successful exponent of the principle of racial character in music, took up his dwelling in America, he spoke constantly of this country's musical destiny as certain to grow from its folk melody. His enthusiasm found a general and a warm response. Collections, examples of Negro songs and Indian melodies, were shown to him. When at length he made it known that he had composed a symphony and entitled it "From the New World," there was naturally a sanguine expectation in certain quarters of a present fulfillment of Dvořák's prophecies. The Symphony, performed in New York in the composer's presence, brought loud applause. Dvořák's American acquaintances, notably Henry T. Burleigh, his friend at the Conservatory, James Huneker, on the faculty, and Henry E. Krehbiel, music critic of the *New York Tribune*, who had pressed upon him some Negro songs for his perusal, looked eagerly to find a significant assimilation of them in the new score.

But this, as it proved, was rather too much to expect. Dvořák in his native simplicity, always content to infuse the traditional forms

TWELVE
BRATTLE
CAMBRIDGE

Raffi

gifts

with a special coloring, was never inclined toward scholarly research in the folk music of other peoples, nor the adoption of other styles. The Symphony turned out to be as directly in the Bohemian vein as the four (then in publication) which had preceded it. Dvořák, cordially received in the New World during his three years' stay as teacher, yet remained a stranger in a land whose music, like its language, was foreign to his nature. Mr. Krehbiel, whose eagerness was moderated by clear-sightedness, could no more than point to a "Scotch snap" (a displaced accent characteristic of Negro rhythm) in the main theme of the first movement, and a resemblance to the Negro spiritual "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot" in the lyric second theme. There were lengthy speculations in print as to whether the Symphony was "American" in letter or in spirit; whether in any case plantation songs or music derived from the American Indians could be called national; as to what were the actual intentions of the composer and how far he had realized them. Some persisted in seeking the seeds of an American musical culture in the Symphony, and others ridiculed their attempt. The whole problem remained in an indeterminate state for the good reason that very few in that dark period had any articulate acquaintance with either Negro melodies or Indian music.

Many years have passed since the topic at last burned itself to ashes. The commentators have long since laid away as outworn and immaterial the assembled pros and cons. The title no longer provokes inquiry. The case for a significant manifestation of music integral to America in Dvořák's last symphony is no more than a ghost of the eager nineties. The "New World" Symphony has survived on its purely musical graces, as one of its composer's most melodious and most brilliant works.

A brief review of the old controversy is of objective interest as part of the history of the Symphony, and as the record of a passing convulsion in the preliminary birthpangs of American musical consciousness.

Dvořák was induced to visit America by the persuasion of Mrs. Jeannette M. Thurber, to direct a school of music, the "National Conservatory" in New York City, which she had founded six years before. The salary Dvořák would have found difficult to decline. It was \$15,000 yearly, six times what he received at the Prague Conservatory, and would enable him to compose as he wished for the rest of his days. It was in October, 1892, that he arrived in New York. At first he found the life and people of America strange and bewildering, but sensed a real promise in what he defined as their "capacity for enthusiasm." He pointed out in an article "Music in America," which he contributed to *Harper's Magazine*, that this limitless enthusiasm, "also called 'push,'" at length ceased merely to annoy him. "Now I like it;

for I have come to the conclusion that this youthful enthusiasm and eagerness to take up everything is the best promise for music in America."

Dvořák made three books of sketches for the Symphony, which have survived, under the date, in his own writing, December 19, 1892. Sketches showing the outlines of the slow movement, under the title "*Legenda*," bear the date January 10, 1893.* The sketch for the Scherzo was completed at the end of that month, and the Finale by May 25. In the ensuing summer, Dvořák sought seclusion for the scoring of his new work in an environment neither of Negroes nor of Indians, neither of mountain air nor sea breezes. His choice fell upon a small community of people of his own race and language, in the farm country of the West—it was perhaps the only spot in the New World where he could almost have imagined himself in the rolling meadowlands of his own country, with the genial country folk which were his own kind all about him. The town was Spillville in northern Iowa, a settlement of a few hundred people, mostly Bohemians, who cultivated their acres, or plied their Old World handicraft in the making of quaint clocks. Dvořák took modest quarters there with his family, was befriended by numerous neighbors, played the organ in the Bohemian church as St. Wenceslaus, completed his fair copy, and wrote a string quartet and string quintet. Musicians were found among the inhabitants to try these over. Musical evenings were liberally interspersed with beer and poker.

Shortly before the first performance of the Symphony from the manuscript in December, the composer made a statement for publication in which he said: "I am satisfied that the future music of this country must be founded upon what are called the Negro melodies. These can be the foundation of a serious and original school of composition to be developed in the United States. When first I came here, I was impressed with this idea, and it has developed into a settled conviction. These beautiful and varied themes are the product of the soil. They are American. They are the folk songs of America, and your composers must turn to them. All the great musicians have borrowed from the songs of the common people."

Naturally, a statement such as this just before the first disclosure of a symphony entitled "From the New World," by a much acclaimed composer, aroused very specific expectations. When the excitements attendant upon the first performance had cleared away, it became evident even to those who would have liked to think otherwise that national origins in the music were predominantly Bohemian.

* By the testimony of Josef Kovarik, Dvořák first wrote over his slow movement "Larghetto," but, liking the slower tempo by Anton Seidl at the first performance, changed it to "Largo."

THREE MOVEMENTS FROM "ROMEO AND JULIET," DRAMATIC SYMPHONY, *Op.* 17

By HECTOR BERLIOZ

Born December 11, 1803, at Côte St. André; died March 8, 1869, at Paris

"Roméo et Juliette, Symphonie dramatique avec Choeurs, Solos de Chant et Prologue en récitatif choral, composée d'après la Tragédie de Shakespeare," was written in 1839. The first performance was at the auditorium of the *Conservatoire* in Paris, November 24, 1839, Berlioz conducting.

The Love Scene calls for 2 flutes, oboe and English horn, 2 clarinets, 2 bassoons, 4 horns, and strings. The Scherzo adds piccolo, 2 bassoons, timpani, bass drum, cymbals, small cymbals, and 2 harps. The movement of the Capulets' ball further adds 2 cornets-à-piston, 3 trombones, 2 triangles, and 2 tambourines.

The score was revised and published in 1847, and published in further revision in 1857. It is dedicated to Nicolo Paganini. The text was written by Émile Deschamps.

"THERE should be no doubt about the character of this work," writes Berlioz in a preface to the score. "Although voices are frequently employed, this is not a concert-opera, a cantata, but a symphony with chorus. If song occurs in the beginning, it is for the purpose of preparing the mind of the hearer for the dramatic scenes in which sentiments and passions are to be expressed by the orchestra." The symphony opens with an orchestral introduction which is labelled "Combats. Tumult. Intervention of the Prince." There is a Prologue for Contralto Solo and Chorus, which Berlioz describes as "After the example of the Prologue by Shakespeare himself, in which the chorus exposes the action, and is sung by only fourteen voices." In a Scherzetto a tenor solo with small chorus gives a foretaste of the Queen Mab Scherzo to come. The second movement (here played) shows Romeo in lone meditation at the house of the Capulets. The Love Scene is the third movement (measures with chorus in the opening Allegretto are here omitted). The Queen Mab Scherzo is the only episode in which the Symphony does not strictly follow the chronology of the play. After it is a section entitled "Juliet's Funeral Procession (Fugued March for Chorus and Orchestra)." Mourners scatter flowers

THOMPSON STONE

VOCAL COACHING and INSTRUCTION

169 BAY STATE ROAD, BOSTON

COPLEY 7-7265

upon Juliet's bier. There follows: "Romeo at the Tomb of the Capulets. Invocation. Juliet's Awakening. Delirious Joy. Despair. Last Death Agony of the Two Lovers. For Orchestra alone. Finale (Two Choruses representing the Capulets and the Montagues sing separately and, at the last, together). The Crowd enters the cemetery. Fight of Capulets and Montagues. Air of Friar Laurence (Tenor Solo). Oath of Reconciliation."

(III.) *Scène d'amour. Nuit sereine — Le Jardin de Capulet, silencieux et désert.*

"If you would ask me which of my works I prefer," wrote Berlioz in 1858, "my answer is that of most artists: the love scene in 'Romeo and Juliet.'"

The movement opens with an *allegretto* (*pianissimo*) for the strings, to which voices of the horns and flutes are added. An *adagio* begins with the muted strings; expressive single voices of the violas, horn, and 'cellos stand out in music of increasing ardor and richness. A recitative passage from the solo 'cello suggests the voice of Romeo, although the movement is developed in purely musical fashion. It dies away at last and ends upon a pizzicato chord.

(IV.) *La reine Mab, ou la fée des songes. Scherzo.*

The Scherzo, *Prestissimo*, is *pianissimo* almost throughout. The place of a Trio is taken by an *allegretto* section which recurs. "Queen Mab in her microscopic car," wrote Berlioz to his friend Heine, "attended by the buzzing insects of a summer's night and launched at full gallop by her tiny horses, fully displayed to the Brunswick public her lovely drollery and her thousand caprices. But you will understand my anxiety on this subject; for you, the poet of fairies and elves, the own brother of those graceful and malicious little creatures, know only too well with what slender thread their veil of gauze is woven, and how serene must be the sky beneath which their many-colored tints sport freely in the pale starlight."

II. *Roméo seul — Tristesse — Concert et Bal. Grande Fête chez Capulet.*

The movement opens *Andante malinconico e sostenuto* with a *pianissimo* phrase for the violins, which, developed into increasingly fervid expression, seems to reflect the contemplation of the melancholy lover who has strayed into the hostile territory of the Capulets' palace. Dancing rhythms become the background of his thoughts. In a section marked *Larghetto espressivo* there is a melody for the wood winds over pizzicato arabesques for the 'cellos. The tempo becomes *allegro* and the ballroom strains more insistent. The themes of the *Larghetto* and the *Allegro* are combined. The isolated figure of Romeo intermittently holds the attention, the music of festivity recurring and bringing the close.

[COPYRIGHTED]

RCA VICTOR RECORDS

BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Recorded under the leadership of CHARLES MUNCH

- Beethoven* Symphony No. 7
Symphony No. 1
Berlioz "Romeo et Juliette" (with chorus and soloists)
"The Damnation of Faust" (with chorus and soloists)
Brahms Piano Concerto No. 2 (Soloist, Artur Schnabel);
Symphony No. 4
Bruch Violin Concerto No. 1, in G minor (Soloist, Yehudi Menuhin)
Handel "Water Music"
Haydn Symphony No. 103 ("Drum Roll")
Symphony No. 104 ("London")
Honegger Symphony No. 5
Ravel Pavane
Roussel "Bacchus et Ariane"
Schubert Symphony No. 2
Schumann Symphony No. 1 ("Spring"); Overture, "Genoveva"
Strauss Don Quixote (Soloist, Gregor Piatigorsky)
ALBUM: *Ravel*, "Rapsodie Espagnole," "La Valse"; Overtures,
Berlioz, "Beatrice and Benedick"; *Lalo* "Le Roi d'Ys";
Saint-Saens, "La Princesse Jaune"
-

Among the recordings under the leadership of
SERGE KOUSSEVITZKY

- | | |
|--|--|
| <i>Bach</i> Brandenburg Concertos, Nos. 1 & 6, Suites Nos. 1 & 4 | <i>Mozart</i> Eine kleine Nachtmusik; Serenade No. 10, K. 361; Symphonies Nos. 36 & 39 |
| <i>Beethoven</i> Symphonies Nos. 3, 5 & 9 | <i>Prokofieff</i> Concerto No. 2 (Jascha Heifetz); Symphony No. 5; Peter and the Wolf, Op. 67, Eleanor Roosevelt, narrator |
| <i>Brahms</i> Symphony No. 3 | <i>Ravel</i> Bolero; Ma Mère L'Oye Suite |
| <i>Copland</i> "Appalachian Spring"; "A Lincoln Portrait" | <i>Schubert</i> Symphony, "Unfinished" |
| <i>Haydn</i> Symphonies Nos. 92 & 94 | <i>Tchaikovsky</i> Serenade in C; Symphonies Nos. 4 & 5 |
| <i>Khatchaturian</i> Piano Concerto (William Kapell) | |
| <i>Mendelssohn</i> Symphony No. 4 | |
-

COMMEMORATIVE ALBUM

- Sibelius* Symphony No. 2, in D, Op. 43
R. Strauss Don Juan, Op. 20
Wagner Siegfried Idyll
-

Recorded under the leadership of PIERRE MONTEUX

- Liszt* Les Préludes
Mozart Piano Concertos, Nos. 12 & 18 (Lili Kraus)
Scriabin Le Poème de l'Extase
Stravinsky "Le Sacre du Printemps"
-

Recorded under the leadership of LEONARD BERNSTEIN

- Stravinsky* "L'Histoire d'un Soldat"
Octet for Wind Instruments
-

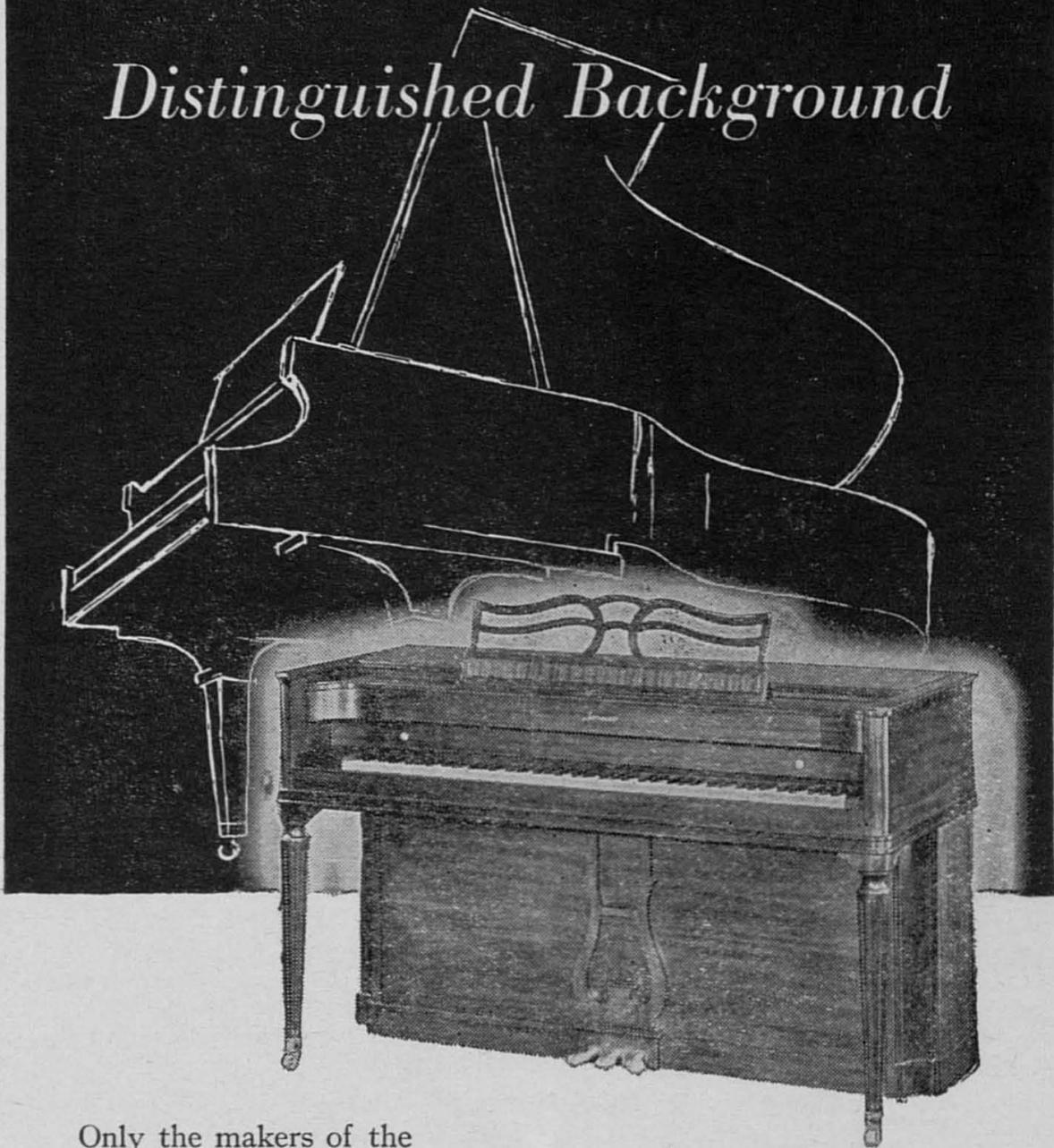
The above recordings are available on both Long Play (33 $\frac{1}{3}$ r.p.m.) and (in most cases) 45 r.p.m.

The following are available on 45 r.p.m. only:

SERGE KOUSSEVITZKY conducting: *Haydn*, "Toy" Symphony; *Wagner*, Prelude to "Lohengrin."

Some of the above recordings and many others not here listed are also available on 78 r.p.m.

Distinguished Background



Only the makers of the incomparable Baldwin Grand could produce such a piano as the Acrosonic. The uncompromising standards of piano excellence that have been an integral part of the tradition of the Baldwin Grand Piano constitute a distinguished background for the creation and development of the exquisite Acrosonic by Baldwin.

Baldwin

THE BALDWIN PIANO COMPANY
CINCINNATI
OHIO

BALDWIN GRAND PIANOS • ACROSONIC SPINET PIANOS
HAMILTON VERTICAL PIANOS • BALDWIN and ORGA-SONIC ELECTRONIC ORGANS