

Czech classical music



- **Antonín Dvořák (1841-1904)**
- Many of his works show the influence of Czech folk music, both in terms of elements such as rhythms and melody – *Slavonic dances*
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- 9 symphonies – the most famous - *From the New World*
- Dvořák also composed operas – Rusalka
- Chamber music – string quartets, songs, choral music and piano music

Bedřich Smetana

- (1824-1884) -was a composer - a musical style connected with folk music
- the father of Czech music
- Internationally he is best known for his opera *The Bartered Bride*
- the symphonic cycle *Má vlast* ("*My Fatherland*")
- history, legends and landscape of the composer's native land.
- VLTAVA



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uI8iTE
TiSqU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uI8iTE
TiSqU)

Czech national anthem

- 1834 – comedy *Fidlovačka*
- After 1918 – the second part
- A Slovak song - Nad Tatrou sa blýska
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U0YavuZe_DQ
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u_CI5fRPIJc

Karel Čapek



- one of the most influential writers of the 20th century
- He introduced and made popular the frequently used international word **robot** which first appeared in his play *RUR Rossum's Universal Robots* in 1921
- Many of his works discuss ethical and other aspects of revolutionary inventions in the first half of 20th century – mass production, atomic weapon

Jaroslav Hašek

- was a humorist, journalist and satirist best known for his novel *The Good Soldier Švejk*
- - collection of humorous incidents about a soldier in the 1st World War
- translated into sixty languages
- He also wrote some 1,500 short stories



Josef Škvorecký

- Czechoslovakian-born Canadian novelist, short story writer, essayist, poet, screenwriter, critic, translator, and editor
- Two cultures – Czechoslovakia and Canada – criticism- the author and the books were banned
- Škvorecký left Czechoslovakia after the Prague Spring of 1968, assisted his wife, writer Zdeňka Salivarova, in managing 68 Publishers, a publication house devoted to the work of Czech writers in exile

- The most famous novel
- *Ostře sledované vlaky - Closely Watched Trains*
- Topic of the WW2
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- Film based on the story – awarded Oscar
- -director M. Forman