

YCO Notes – March 2

Dvorak's "New World Symphony" - 4th movement

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Symphony_No._9_\(Dvořák\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Symphony_No._9_(Dvořák))

Find the recording on the bottom right of this page – click on 4th movement. Remember – ours is an arrangement and thus a little shorter and slightly divergent from what you'll hear here.

Dvorak's 9th Symphony was composed after his visit to the United States in the late 1800's. America was going through a slight music identity crisis during this time. While trying to become an independent country, its music was still dependent upon old-world European classical style. Jeannette Thurber was a wealthy widow who was devoted to creating a music unique to Americans. She commissioned Czech composer Antonin Dvorak to help her lead her financial and musical investment of her newly opened National Conservatory of Music which opened its door to promising African-American musicians. Dvorak was entranced with African-American and Native American music. Using their music as the template for his compositions, he wrote the 9th Symphony in tribute to American – the "New World." Many music theorists conjecture that this symphony was not written solely from African and Native American influences, but from folk music found world-wide. Dvorak claims this is because American truly was a melting pot for many things, including music.

Bizet's Farandole

This link is from the Luck's Music website - <http://65.23.157.59/mp3/34668.mp3>

And should allow you to check out a great free recording

This is the background music from a play *L'arlesiana* (translation – "the Girl from Arles") written by Daudet and first performed in 1872. The 20+ pieces written for this play were not widely recognized as great music, nor are they played often in present times. However, out of this music, Bizet was able to create two orchestral suites which have survived and are considered standard repertoire by many. Farandole comes from the 2nd Suite.

Schubert's Unfinished Symphony - 1st movement

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Symphony_No._8_\(Schubert\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Symphony_No._8_(Schubert))

Schubert's Eighth Symphony (in B minor) was written in 1822. It consists of two Movements only, therefore the title: Unfinished. Just why Schubert should have left it in this so-called "unfinished" condition, it is not easy to determine. There are two facts which appear to indicate that he intended, originally, to write a complete four-Movement Symphony.