

ABOUT THE SLAVONIC DANCES

(From Wikipedia)

The Slavonic Dances (Czech: Slovanské tance) are a series of 16 orchestral pieces composed by Antonín Dvořák in 1878 and 1886 and published in two sets as Opus 46 and Opus 72 respectively. Originally written for piano four hands, the Slavonic Dances were inspired by Johannes Brahms's own Hungarian Dances and were orchestrated at the request of Dvořák's publisher soon after composition. The pieces, lively and overtly nationalistic, were well received at the time and today are among the composer's most memorable works, occasionally making appearances in popular culture.

Prior to the publication of the Slavonic Dances, Op. 46, Dvořák was a relatively unknown composer and was of modest means. Consequently, he had applied for the Austrian State Prize fellowship (German 'Stipendium') in order to fund his composing work. After he won the prize 3 times in 4 years (1874, 1876-77), Johannes Brahms, as one of the members of the committee responsible for awarding the stipend, referred Dvořák to his own publisher, Fritz Simrock. The first of Dvořák's music to be published by Simrock was the Moravian Duets, which attained widespread success; encouraged, Simrock asked the composer to write something with a dance-like character.

Unsure how to begin, Dvořák used Brahms's Hungarian Dances as a model—but only as a model; there are a number of important differences between the two works. For example, whereas Brahms made use of actual Hungarian folk melodies, Dvořák only made use of the characteristic rhythms of Slavic folk music: the melodies are entirely his own. Simrock was immediately impressed by the music Dvořák produced (originally for piano four hands), and asked the composer for an orchestral version as well. Both versions were published within the year, and quickly established Dvořák's international reputation. The enormous success of the Opus 46 dances led Simrock to request another set of Slavonic Dances in 1886; Dvořák's subsequent Opus 72 dances met with a similar reception.



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DR. GULIMINA MAHAMUTI DR. FRANK CHIOU



In a Piano Duet Performance of

████████████████████ Antonin Dvorak's ██████████████████████

Slavonic Dances

████████████████████ Opuses 46 and 72 ██████████████████████

November 2, 2014

In the Sanctuary of
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
Corner of Marion Avenue and Millsboro Road

"Where Our Faith is Informed by the Fine Arts"

Slavonic Dances

Antonin Dvořák (1841-1904)

*Piano Duet
With Honored Guest Pianists*

Dr. Gulimina Mahamuti

Dr. Frank Chiou



PROGRAM

Opus 46 (1878)

- No. 1 in C major. Presto
- No. 2 in E minor. Allegretto scherzando
- No. 3 in A-flat major. Poco allegro
- No. 4 in F major. Tempo di minuetto
- No. 5 in A major. Allegro vivace
- No. 6 in D major. Allegretto scherzando
- No. 7 in C minor. Allegro assai
- No. 8 in G minor. Presto

INTERMISSION

Opus 72 (1886)

- No. 1 (9) in B major. Molto vivace
- No. 2 (10) in E minor. Allegretto grazioso
- No. 3 (11) in F major. Allegro
- No. 4 (12) in D-flat major. Allegretto grazioso
- No. 5 (13) in B-flat minor. Poco adagio
- No. 6 (14) in B-flat major. Moderato, quasi minuetto
- No. 7 (15) in C major. Presto
- No. 8 (16) in A-flat major. Lento grazioso, quasi tempo di valse



Dr. Frank Chiou engages music in the multiple roles of performer, teacher, and scholar. The son of Taiwanese immigrants, he began piano lessons at the age of five, but serious study did not begin until high school, when he attended Phillips Exeter Academy in New Hampshire. He holds degrees in piano performance from Oberlin Conservatory (BM) and the University of Michigan (MM, DMA) as well as a master's degree in music theory from the University of Michigan. His

teachers have included Haewon Song, Anton Nel, and Logan Skelton. He has taught at the University of Michigan, the University of Windsor (Windsor, Ontario) and Utah State University; he has also served as collaborative pianist and instrumental coach at the University of Michigan while also teaching privately in Ann Arbor. Currently, Dr. Chiou is assistant professor of music at Ohio Wesleyan University in Delaware, Ohio, and the head of piano and music theory. As a performer, Dr. Chiou is at home not only as a soloist but also as a chamber musician, and he enjoys collaborating in a variety of settings, from songs and piano duets to larger ensembles with strings or winds. His pedagogical research centers on the bearing of music analysis on performance and teaching. Other research interests include the music of Brahms and Rachmaninoff and music in film.



Dr. Gulimina Mahamuti enjoys an active career as a pianist, researcher, presenter, and educator. She performs extensively as a soloist and collaborative pianist in major cities in the U.S., Canada, Denmark, Hungary, Turkey, and China, with broadcasts on radio and state TV. She gave recitals at the invitation of the Turkish Ambassador in Hungary, at Carnegie Weill Recital Hall in New York, at Trinity Church in Boston, and at Memorial Church of Harvard University, and performed and gave master classes frequently as guest pianist

at universities and music schools across the U.S. and China. Dr. Mahamuti performed piano concertos with the Southeast Kansas Symphony Orchestra, the Mansfield Symphony Orchestra, and the Harbin Symphony Orchestra in China. Her piano playing was featured at many radio stations, including San Francisco Turkish Radio, San Francisco Community Radio, Queens College of CUNY online podcast in the U.S., Touch Radio in China, and Istanbul Technical University Radio in Turkey. Her CD recording, Xinjiang Piano Music from Western China, features the distinctive piano music from western China where she grew up. A native of Karamay City in western China, Dr. Mahamuti is the first Uyghur from China to receive a Doctorate of Musical Arts in Piano Performance from the United States. She was interviewed frequently by China newspapers and China State TV and was featured in a two-part TV series on Karamay TV. Residing in Mansfield with her husband Dr. Zoon Nguyen, Dr. Mahamuti is a part-time Assistant Professor of Piano at Ohio Wesleyan University and a Nationally Certified Teacher of Music in piano. She serves on the board and chairs the Central East District of Ohio Music Teachers Association Piano Workshops and is the chairperson of the Richland County Chapter of OhioMTA. She is also a board member of the Ohio Federation of Music Clubs and chairs the Student/Collegiate Auditions Award for the state of Ohio. For more information, visit www.gulimina.com and www.guliminapianostudio.com.