

Antonin Dvorak – Serenade for Strings op.22 (Krecek) [2001]

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1. *Moderato*
 2. *Tempo di Valse*
 3. *Scherzo*
 4. *Larghetto*
 5. *Finale - Vivace*
- Capella Istropolitana Jaroslav Krecek – conductor

The E major Serenade for string orchestra was written in the first two weeks of May in the year 1873 and performed in Prague on 10th December 1876. It is scored only for strings and has for many years formed a major item in the string orchestra repertoire. The first movement opens with music of delicate charm, breathing something of the spirit of a Schubert quartet, particularly in the middle section of this ternary movement. This is followed by a waltz, with a more restless trio. The scherzo starts with a melody of great liveliness, followed by a second theme of more romantic pretensions and a further melody of considerable beauty, before an extended passage leads back again to the opening melodies. A Larghetto of great tenderness and yearning, recalling in outline the trio of the second movement leads to the finale in which there are references both to the Larghetto and to the first movement. This brings, in conclusion, still more of the spirit of Bohemia, with which the whole Serenade is instilled. --- naxosdirect.co.uk

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