

PROGRAM

September 23, 7 pm Embassy of the Czech Republic

Antonín Dvořák Silhouettes, Op. 8

Dumka and Furiant, Op. 12

Poetic Tone Pictures, Op. 85

Intermission

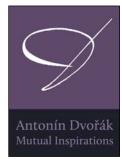
Leoš Janáček Sonata 1.X.1905

Vítězslav Novák Song of a Winter Night

Bedřich Smetana Three Czech Dances

Performed by Radoslav Kvapil (piano)

ABOUT THE FESTIVAL



The Mutual Inspirations Festival 2011 - Antonín Dvořák runs from September 8, 2011, commemorating the 170th anniversary of the birth of the composer, and ends on October 28, 2011, Czech National Day. The festival features more than 500 local and international artists, 30 concerts and events, and a dozen prestigious venues in the Washington, DC, community. The festival is spearheaded by the Embassy of the Czech Republic, under the patronage of Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Karel Schwarzenberg, focusing on the mutual inspirations between Czech and American cultures. For more information about the festival, please visit www.mutualinspirations.org.

BIOGRAPHY



World-class Czech pianist Radoslav Kvapil hails from Brno, Moravia, and began private lessons at the age of six with Ludvík Kundera, Leoš Janáček's closest disciple and successor. Throughout his distinguished career, Kvapil has been commended by music critics for his "sterling service for the cause of Czech piano music," and praised as an "unrivaled master," as well as a "magician at the keyboard."

Radoslav Kvapil has performed in major concert halls in about 50 countries in Europe, North America, and Asia, including the Royal Albert Hall and The Barbican Centre in London, Carnegie Recital Hall in New York, the Théatre des Champs Elysées in Paris, the Concert Hall of the Seoul Arts Centre in South Korea, and The Henry Crown Symphony Hall in Jerusalem, to name a few.

Since 1977, he has given master-classes and lecture recitals worldwide in such distinguished music schools as the Juillard School of Music in New York, the Royal Academy of Music and the Guildhall School of Music in London, Royal College of Music in Cardiff, Conservatoire National Superieur in Paris, and numerous other universities throughout the world.

Kvapil frequently serves in juries of important piano competitions, including the Schumann Competition in Zwickau, the Gina Bachauer Competition in Salt Lake City, the competition of the American Pianists Association in Indianapolis, and Isidor Bajic Piano Memorial in Novi Sad.

In 1967-1969, Radoslav Kvapil recorded Antonín Dvořák's complete piano works, the first such recording in history, and the complete piano works by Leoš Janáček. In 1975, he made a recording of the complete piano works by Jan Václav Hugo Voříšek. A second complete recording of Janáček's piano works followed in 1989, and in 1990, the first two volumes of Bohuslav Martinů's complete piano works were released. Kvapil has recorded dozens of other records and CDs of works by Bedřich Smetana, Zdeněk Fibich, Josef Suk, Franz Liszt, Johannes Brahms, Paul Hindemith, Franz Schubert, Frederic Chopin, and others.

In 1974, Radoslav Kvapil founded the South Bohemia Music Festival, which has been taking place annually since then. In 1999, Kvapil founded the International Dvořák Society (IDS), which has organized a number of concert series, including the Vysočina Music Festival (since 2002), Afternoon Concerts for Seniors in Prague 2 (since 2004), and the American Spring Festival. Mr. Kvapil is also the founder and chairman of the Czech branch of the European Piano Teachers Association (EPTA). In the summer of 2008, Radoslav Kvapil was elected the European President of EPTA for 2008-2009. In 2002, the French Ministry of Culture awarded Radoslav Kvapil the title of "Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres."