ANTONÍN DVOŘÁK

CARNIVAL

Overture

Op. 92

Critical Edition based on the Composer's Manuscript Edited by Otakar Šourek

FULL SCORE

"CARNIVAL"

(Karneval)

Overture for large orchestra, op. 92.

Instrumentation: piccolo, 2 flutes, 2 oboes, cor anglais, 2 clarinets in A, 2 bassoons, 4 horns, 2 trumpets, 3 trombones, tuba, tympani, cymbals, tambourine, triangle, harp and strings.

Written in sketch between July 28th and August 14th, and score completed by September 12th, 1891, at Vysoká.—First performance as for the overture "In Nature's Realm" (p. 295).—Score, parts and four-handed piano arrangement (Oskar *Nedbal*) published by Simrock, Berlin, 1894.—Duration: 9 minutes.

The second overture of the cycle "Nature, Life and Love", entitled "Carnival" (originally "Life") has no more definite or detailed programme than the overture "In Nature's Realm", and, with one small deviation, is also very similar in form. Still filled with the elevated feeling of solitude, man finds himself, all at once, caught up in the gay whirligig of life — and is happy! Willingly he yields to the carnival mood of merriment and, throwing reserve to the winds, he enters into the spirit of youthful revelry with care-free abandon, grateful for all its joys and beauties. Thus, in a few words, we may describe the general atmosphere of the first part of the overture, which comprises the exposition of the sonata form

"CARNIVAL"

(Allegro, A major, $^{2}/_{2}$). The orchestra enters in full force with the vigorous principal theme spread broadly over a two-part paragraph.



After a short modulating digression, the second principal theme, equally radiant, is presented in undiminished strength, but still grander and prouder in its conformation.:



The theme concludes with a swiftly-moving unison passage in the strings whereupon, with admirable invention, the violas create out of its metrically augmented figures the rising sequences of a mockpious melody:



Its obviously caricatured gravity turns into a grimace in the violins above the diminished chord of the principal theme (9), and a short tranquillizing passage in the syncopated rhythm of the first bar of the same theme provides the transition to the paragraph containing the secondary theme. The passionatelly swelling melodic line of this lovely motif is worked out in dialogue through a full thirty bars:



PROGRAMME MUSIC

It is first given to the violins, with counterpoints in the wood-wind, but on its repetition the groups of instruments exchange roles. Scarcely has the song with its expression of longing and desire died away than the violins break in with the second subsidiary theme which, to the accompaniment of the light rhythms of the wood-winds, strings, tambourine and delicate fanfares of trumpets, combines with the rhythmic figure s from theme 10, acquiring in the process an air of carnival gaiety and abandon:



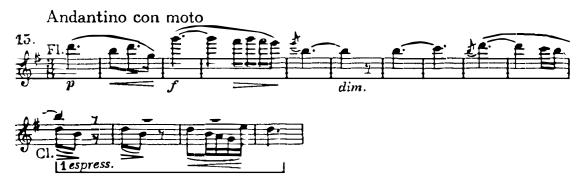
This theme is presented by the violins in the key of G major, then with a richer accompaniment by the clarinet in E major, finally rising by a steep gradation to the final theme in which the whirling gaiety of the dance seems to reach its climax.



After a continuation of theme 13 has been presented in rising sequences, the wild revelry is suddenly cut short: above the eddying movement of the diminished chord e-g-b flat-c sharp in the harp, the first two bars of theme 9 appear in the violins. The swinging quavers of the second bar rise sharply, then gradually lose force, subside and ebb away till they settle at last on the sharply struck g of the horns. It is as if a man, having torn himself away from the giddy vanity of life's fair and withdrawn into inner contemplation, should put the question: Where then is the true source of all this happiness; who is the giver of all this life and intoxicating joy? And the reply

"CARNIVAL"

rings out—Nature! A stroke of genius is the short, lyrical intermezzo (Andantino con moto, G major, $^3/_4$) interpolated at this point in the composition, the pure poetry of its mood dying away in a silvery beam of sound. Above the ostinato of the cor anglais, which repeats the rhythmic figure r from the principal theme, there sound in the inner harmonies the meltingly soft chords of the divided and muted violins and violas, and over them, again, the flute draws a dreamily beautiful line of melody (15), to which the clarinet significantly adds the gentle motif of Nature from the first overture (1):



The poetic charm of this passage is further heightened when the solo violin repeats the melody (15) and the cor anglais concludes it, whereupon a few bars in the same mood bring the intermezzo to a close.

And then, as if the vision had faded and the spirit were back again in the reality from which it had withdrawn itself, the harp, along with the claripets and the bassoons, start the eddyings of a diminished chord, above which the violins deliver the first two bars of the principal theme (9). The development begins. The key (G minor) and the mood have their special significance. On returning to the whirl of gaiety, the impression evoked by that moment of inner contemplation still persists as, on passing from darkness into a brilliantly lit ballroom, we see its outlines blurred and bizarrely distorted. The chief role is given to theme 10 which, in its original form and in rhythmic diminutions, passes from one group of instruments to another, finally appearing in combination with the

PROGRAMME MUSIC

principal theme (9) and even with allusions to the theme of Nature in the deep brass instruments (1).

The blurred and distorted outlines suddenly come into focus. Once more theme 10 is delivered in full strength and, in combination with theme 11, presented with great pomp by the trombones. A rapid gradation based on the first principal theme (9) leads to the recapitulation, which is a regular repetition of the first part of the exposition but, in its further course, is considerably shortened and concentrated. All the more unified and powerful in effect is its rise to a short coda, which works up in an accelerated tempo (Pocco piu mosso) the opening figure of theme 9, the composition ending in a final whirl of intoxicating gaiety.

CARNEVAL · CARNIVAL · CARNAVAL (Critical edition)





































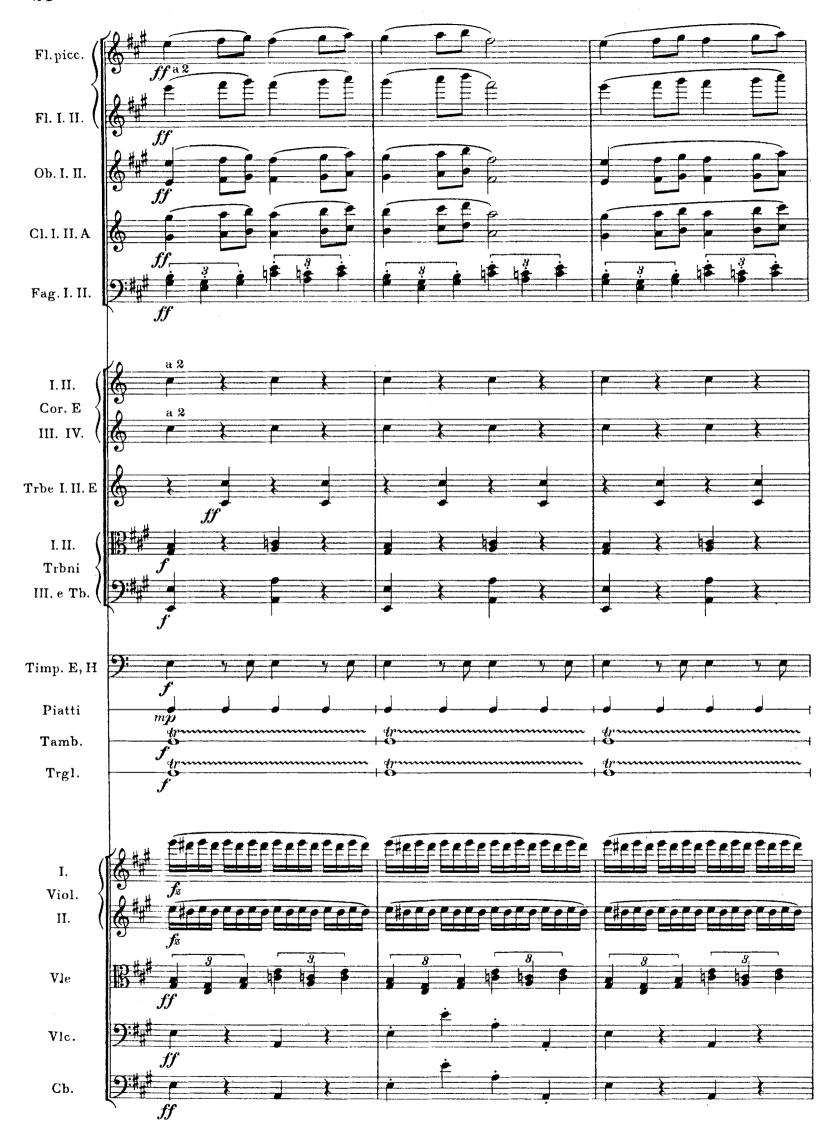


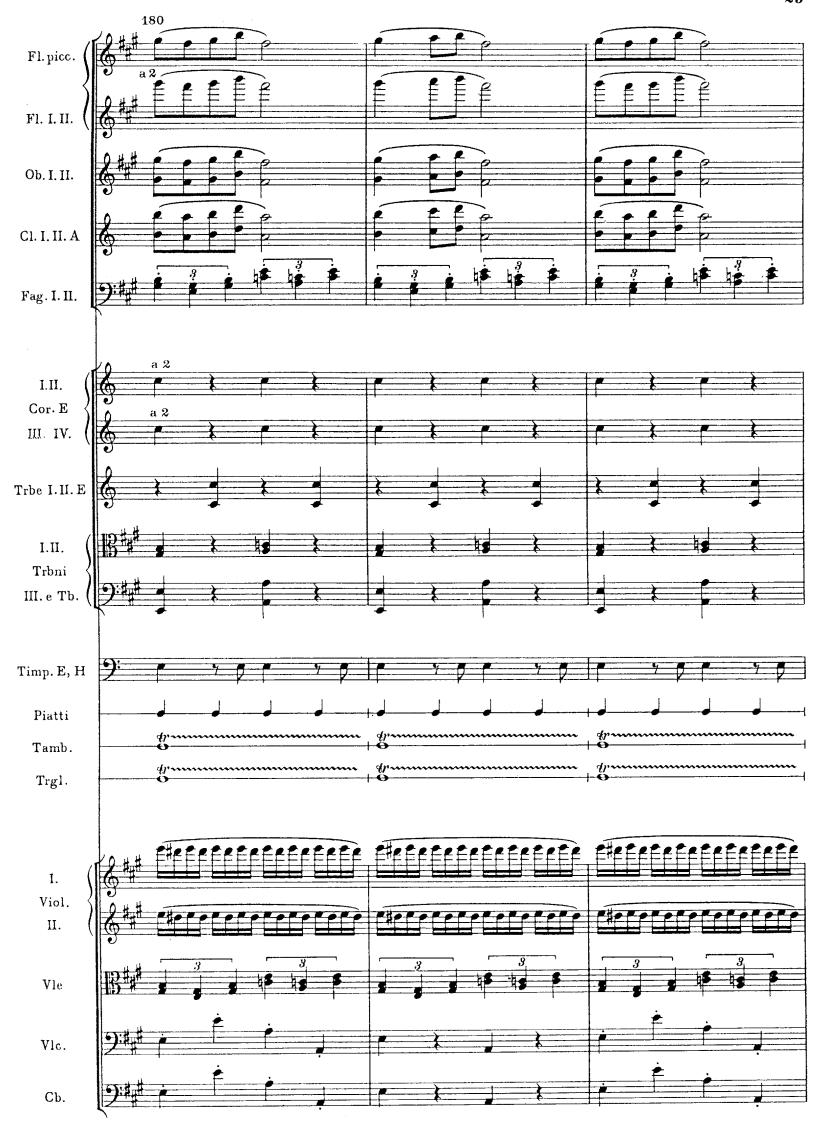


















































































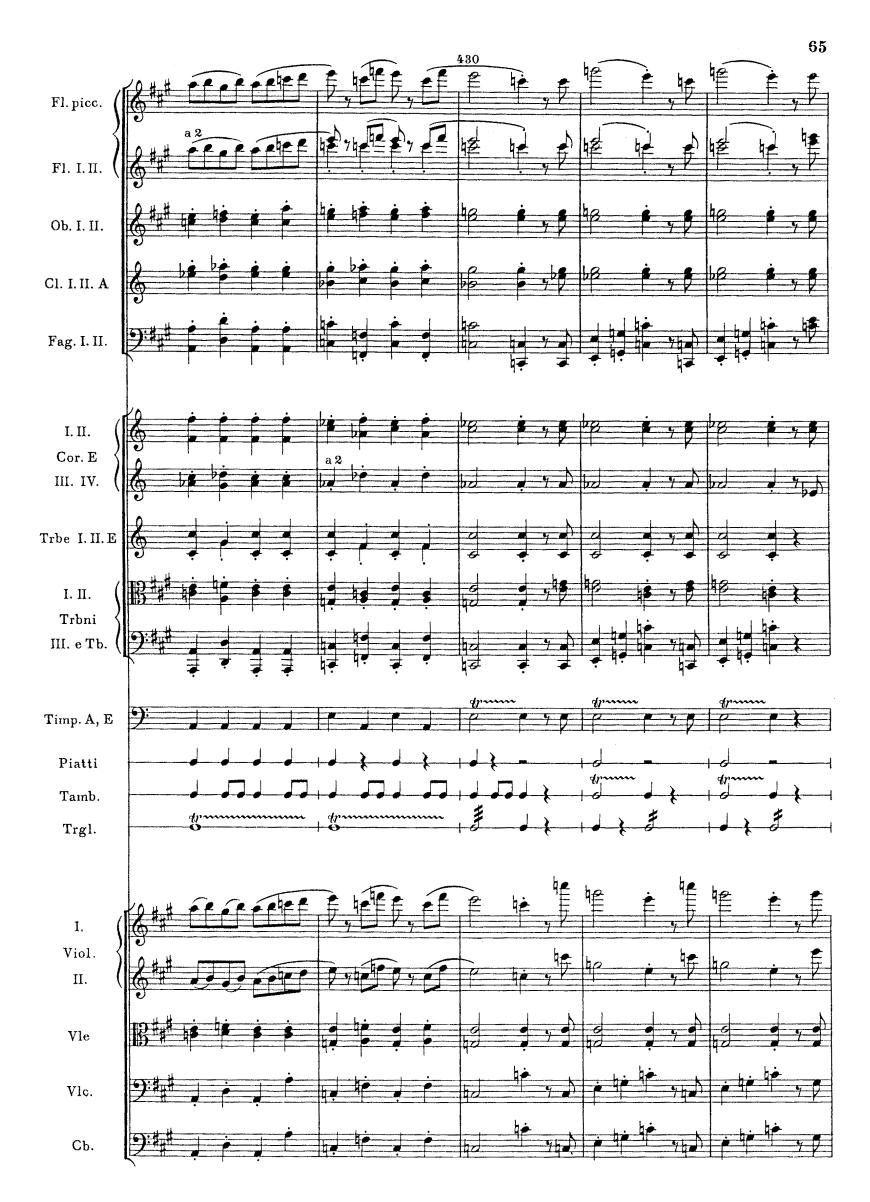














ff

Cb.













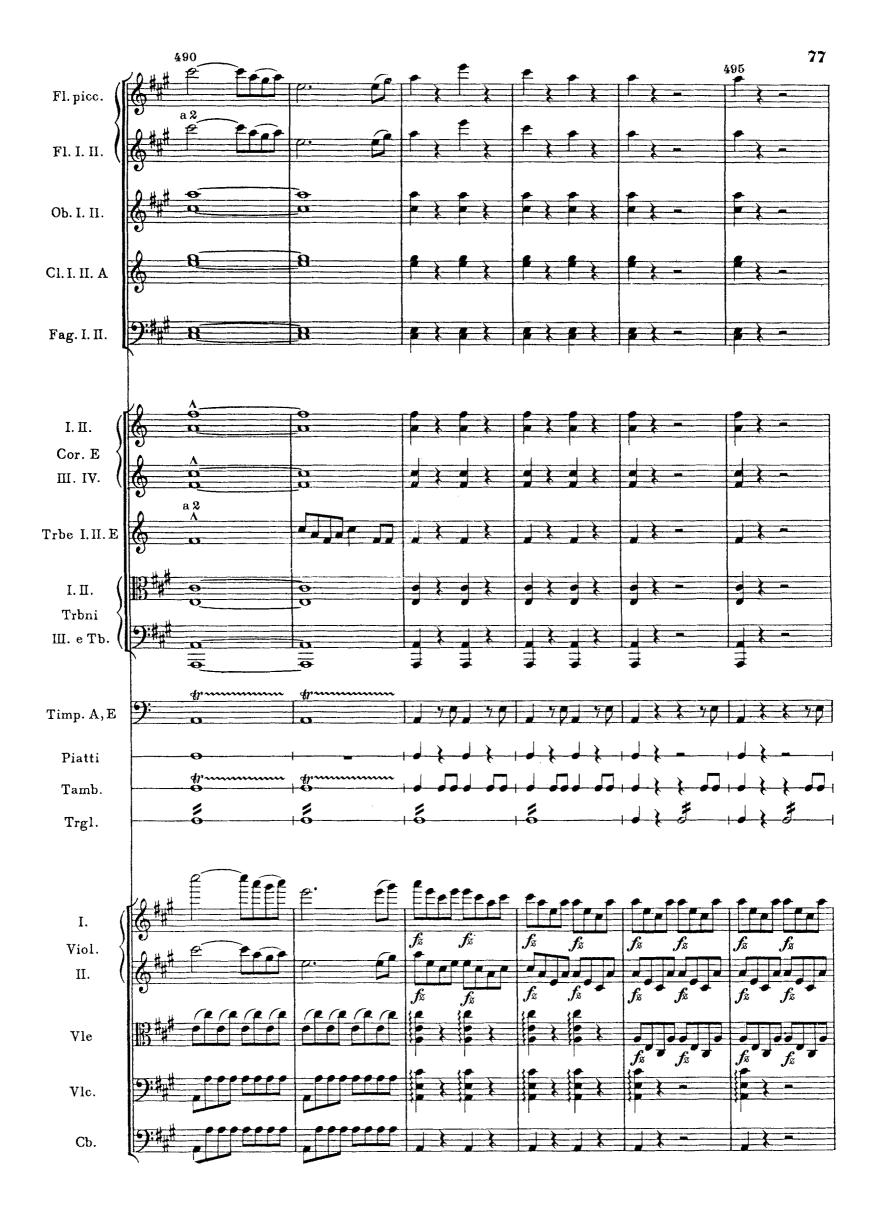






















VYDAVATELSKÁ ZPRÁVA

PRAMENY:

a) Autograf partitury z majetku dědiců skladatelových. Má 28 listů 20řádkového papíru podélného formátu 270:358 mm. Na první straně je titul:

(1) (2) (3) "Příroda, Život a Láska" Ouvertura II op. 91 Život (Carneval) pro velký orkestr | složil a | České Universitě Pražské | věnuje | Antonín Dvořák | (Partitura)

Notový zápis začíná na stránce následující, označené 1 a pokračuje až na stránku 53. Za posledním taktem je skladatelem napříč napsáno "Bohu díky! | Komposici začal 28. července dokončil 14 srpna | instrumentaci hned začal a dokončil 12. září (1891) | Na Vysoké | Antonín Dvořák."

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VYDAVATELSKÉ POZNÁMKY

ANNOTAZIONI

1 A: Allegro S: Allegro MM d = 132 48-49 Fl. I.: 1-9 Cor. ingl.: A; versio I: A: versio I: col Viol. I. 48₂ Cor. IV.: A: versio I: h^1 , S: g^1 54 Viol. II.: A: 1 J. M J 1 801 Fag. I. II.: 11-13 Viol. II.: A: versio I: c^1 , S: -A: legato S: non legato 81, Fl. I. II.: 141 Viol. I.: A: dis^3 , S: h^2 A: gis^2 , S: g^2 103 A: -, S: Poco tranquillo () = 126) 16 Vle, Vlc. A: - S: arco 110 Cb.: 30-32 Viol. II.: A: versio I: ; SN = A1373 Viol. II.: $A: a^1, S: d^2$ 322 Trbne III.: 139 Vlc.: A: $cis^1 [1]$, S: a Λ : -, S: arco 32-33 Trbe I. II.: 157 Cb.: A: 1 1 2 1; S: 1 2 2 1; E: 1 2 - 1 38 Fl. picc.: SN: 1 2 1 (Vide Vle 155, Vlc. 156) A: versio I: ottava bassa 162-163 Cor. III. IV.: 38, 39 Timp.: A:1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 5 1 5 SN = S A: versio I: 8 B

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168 Vlc., Cb.:
    A: -, S: arco
185-187 Fl. picc.:
   189 Fl. Picc.:
   1897 Viol. I. II.:
   A: fis^2, S: e^2
2022 Viol. I.:
    A: d^2, S: dis^2 (vide 199)
218 A: -, S: rit.
219 A: Andante con moto; S: Andantino con moto ( ) = 92)
230 Fl. I.:
   A: الحمر أبي ا ; S, E: الحمر أبي ا
262, Fag. II.:
    A: c, S: d
263 A: -, S: Tempo I Allegro ( d = 132)
275-276 Vlc:
    A: versio I. col Ob. I.
         Vlc.:
    A: versio I. col Cor. I. II.
279-283 Vlc.:
    S: ottava bassa, SN = A
281-282 Viol. I., Vle:
    A: versio I: come 273-274
283, 284 Fag. I. II., Cor. I. II.:
    A: versio I: come 275-276
3021 Fl. picc.:
    A: d^3, S: a^2
304<sub>6-7</sub>, 305<sub>6-7</sub>, 307<sub>6-7</sub> Viol. I.:
    A: a^1-g^1, S: g^1-es^1
3137-8 Viol. I.:
    A: es^1-d^1, S: f^1-es^1
3193 Viol. II.:
    A: a^1, S: gis^1
3213 Viol. I.:
    A: a^1, S: gis^1
3221 Viol. I.:
    A: come 324; SN = S
358-361 Cb.:
367-368, 371-372, 374-375, 376 Fl. picc.:
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A: scnza trillo, SN = S

374-376 Viol. I.: A: versio I: 415 Trbne III.: A: -, SN = S415 Fl. II.: cis^2 [1]?; SN = S = A422 Cor. III. IV.: ; SN = S422₂ Trbe I. II.: $A: c^1-c^2, S: d^1-d^2$ 4222 Vle: A: $gis-e^{1}[1]$; S: $a-fis^{1}$ 4232, 4242 Trbe II.: A: a^1 , S: f^1 425-426 Viol. II.: A: versio I: = 4261 Viol. I.: A: e^2 -cis³, S: cis³ 462-465 Vlc., Cb.: 466, 467 Piatti: A: -, SN = S4712-3 Trbe II, Trbne I: A: Trbe II. -, Trbne I. staccato, S: Trbe II., Trbne I. 4804-5, 4813, 4823-4 4833, 4843-4, 4853 Trbe I. II.: A: versio I: g1 4871 Cb.: A:a;SN=S488 Viol. II.: A: versio I: 488-495 Cor. IV.:

A: versio I: c1

5023, 4 Cl. I.: $A: f^2$, $S: es^2$ (vide Vle)

Fr. Bartoš, dr. A. Čubr