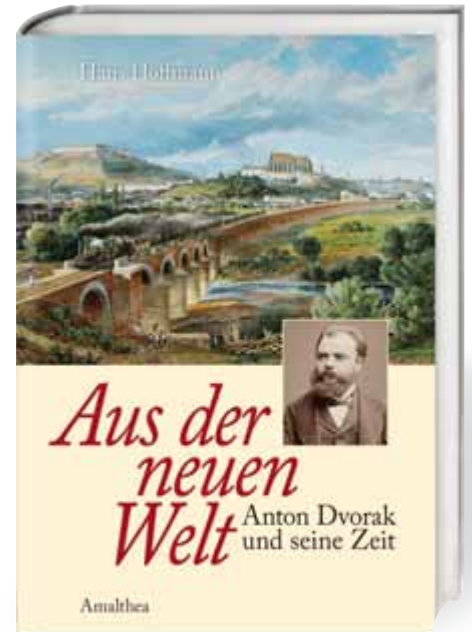


Anton Dvorak (1841-1904) and Friedrich Smetana are considered

to be the creators of Czech national music. Dvorak was primarily influenced by Franz Liszt; Johannes Brahms was his strong supporter. His artistic work strongly related to the tunes and rhythms of his home country. From 1880 onwards, Dvorak's fame spread beyond the frontiers of his country. Between 1892 and 1895, he was the director of the New York Conservatory. There he wrote his most famous composition, the Ninth Symphony »From the New World«.

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Dr. Hans Hoffmann, born in the Bohemian town of Reichenberg in 1937, achieved his doctorate in the field of chemistry at the Technical University of Vienna. After a successful professional career in a large-scale German industrial group, he turned to writing, primarily the writing of biographies of musicians.



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