

Lesson 13: Slavonic Dance No. 2

FOCUS ON

1. Strumming chord progressions in the key of A minor
2. Applying the double strum
3. Sight-reading

KEY POINTS

- Clap the rhythm of m. 1–16.
- The melody in m. 1–2 repeats in m. 5–6, m. 9–10, and m. 13–14. Split the class: have one group play the first two measures of every line and have the other group play the second two measures. Switch parts and repeat. Do the same for measures 17–25.
- The *f* (*p*) marking in m. 17 means: forte (loud) the first time and piano (quiet) on the repeat.
- Sight-read the chord progression in m. 1–8 at a moderate tempo. Use an eighth-note thumb strum initially (i.e. four strums per bar). Then repeat using an off-beat strum.

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Antonín Dvořák, a Czech composer who wrote music during the Romantic era (1815–1910), made frequent use of Bohemian folk music in his works. This isn't the first time you've played Dvořák's music; Exercise 4 in Lesson 15 of Book 1 is from his famous Symphony No. 9 ("From the New World").

Slavonic Dance No. 2

Antonín Dvořák
(1841–1904)

Lively

Am Dm E7 Dm E7 Am E7 Am

f

5 C Dm E7 Dm G7 C

9 Am Dm E7 Dm E7 Am E7 Am

p

13 C Dm E7 Dm G7 C *f* Fine

17 G7 C G7 C *f* (*p*)

21 G7 C G7 C C E7

1. 2. D.C. al Fine

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ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS & COMMENTS

- When the majority of students can pick the melody, add an *accelerando* (i.e. a steady increase in tempo) to m. 17–25. Return to the original tempo on the D.C. al Fine.
- Bring a high-quality recording of Dvořák's music to class, e.g. the *Slavonic Dances* or his Symphony No. 9 ("From the New World"). Play the recording for students as a directed listening exercise during class.
- Note: Exercise 4 in Lesson 15 of Book 1 is an excerpt from Dvořák's Symphony No. 9 ("From the New World").

LEARNING OUTCOMES

It is expected that students will:

- pick the melody of *Slavonic Dance No. 2* with clear tone
- use a double strum to play the chords as written with full, ringing tone