

Bedřich Smetana's *Festive Symphony* was composed in 1854 when hopes for Emperor Franz Joseph becoming King of Bohemia were high. The splendid sounds of Smetana's only formal symphony pre-echo later masterpieces such as *Má Vlast*, but his use of the Austrian Imperial anthem became unacceptable in the subsequent spirit of Czech nationalism, resulting in the work's neglect. With its sparkling overture and lively rural dances, *The Bartered Bride* secured Smetana's international reputation and, as the only Czech opera of its day to enter the standard repertoire, it became a beacon for the nation's 19th century musical renaissance.



Deutschlandfunk Kultur

Bedřich
SMETANA
(1824–1884)

rsb

RUNDFUNK-
SINFONIEORCHESTER
BERLIN

Festive Symphony in E major, Op. 6

42:55

1	I. Allegro vivace	11:00
2	II. Largo maestoso	10:36
3	III. Scherzo: Allegro vivo	8:47
4	IV. Finale: Allegro non troppo ma energico	12:20

Prodaná nevěsta (The Bartered Bride) (excerpts)

20:55

5	Overture	7:06
6	Act I: Finale: Polka	5:01
7	Act II: Furiant	2:05
8	Act III: Dance of the Comedians	6:33

Berlin Radio Symphony Orchestra
(Rundfunk-Sinfonieorchester Berlin)

Darrell Ang

ein Ensemble der



A co-production with Deutschlandradio Kultur

Recorded: 2–5 February 2016 at the Großer Sendesaal, Rundfunk Berlin-Brandenburg, Germany

Producer and editor: Hein Laabs • Engineer: Ekkehard Stoffregen

Assistant engineer: Julius Middendorff • Booklet notes: Keith Anderson

Cover: *Lithograph of Franz Joseph I* (c. 1855) by Adolf Dauthage (1825–1883)

NAXOS
CLASSICAL

DDD

8.573672

Playing Time
63:58



© 2018 Deutschlandradio
Ⓟ & © 2018 Naxos Rights US, Inc.
Booklet notes in English
Made in Germany
www.naxos.com