

# Karel Husa Biography and Works



Karel Husa, winner of the 1993 Grawemeyer Award and the 1969 Pulitzer Prize for Music, is an internationally known composer and conductor. An American citizen since 1959, Husa was born in Prague, Czechoslovakia, on August 7, 1921. After completing studies at the Prague Conservatory and, later, the Academy of Music, he went to Paris where he received diplomas from the Paris National Conservatory and the Ecole normale de musique. Among his teachers were Arthur Honegger, Nadia Boulanger, Jaroslav Ridky, and conductor Andre Cluytens. In 1954, Husa was appointed to the faculty of Cornell University where he was Kappa Alpha Professor until his retirement in 1992. He was elected Associate Member of the Royal Belgian Academy of Arts and Sciences in 1974 and has received honorary degrees of Doctor of Music from several institutions, including Coe College, the Cleveland Institute of Music, Ithaca College, and Baldwin Wallace College.

Among numerous honors, Husa has received a fellowship from the Guggenheim Foundation: awards from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, UNESCO, and the National Endowment for the Arts; Koussevitzky Foundation commissions; the Czech Academy for the Arts and Sciences Prize; the Czech Medal of Merit, First Class, from President Vaclay Havel; and the Lili Boulanger award. Recordings of his music have been issued on CBS Masterworks, Vox, Everest, Louisville, CRI, Orion, Grenadilla, and Phoenix Records, among others. Husa's String Quartet No. 3 received the 1969 Pulitzer Prize, and his Cello Concerto the 1993 Grawemeyer Award. Music for *Prague 1968*, with over 7000 performances worldwide, has become part of the modern repertory.

On February 13, 1990, Husa realized a long-time dream when he conducted the orchestral version of *Music for Prague 1968* in Prague. Another well-known work of his, *Apotheosis of This Earth,* is called by Husa a "manifest" against pollution and destruction. Among other works, Husa has composed *The Trojan Women,* a ballet commissioned by the Louisville Ballet and Orchestra; *Recollections for Wind Quintet and Piano,* commissioned to celebrate the 200th anniversary of

friendly relations between the United States and Holland and premiered in October 1982 at the Library of Congress in Washington DC; and *Concerto for Wind Ensemble*, performed in December 1982 and recipient of the first Sudler prize in 1983.

Some of Husa's more recent works include: Cheetah, premiered in March 2007 by the University of Louisville Wind Symphony in a set of performances that included Carnegie Hall: Les Couleurs Fauves, premiered in 1996 by the Northwestern University Wind Ensemble: Violin Concerto (1993), commissioned for the 150th Anniversary of the New York Philharmonic and premiered by concertmaster Glenn Dicterow; String Quartet No. 4 (1991), commissioned for the consortium of Colorado, Alard, and Blair Quartets by the National Endowment for the Arts: Concerto for Orchestra (1986), commissioned by the New York Philharmonic and Zubin Mehta; and two works premiered during the 1987-1988 season, Concerto for Organ, commissioned by the Michelson-Morley Centennial Celebration in Cleveland for Karel Paukert, and Concerto for Trumpet and Orchestra, commissioned by the Chicago Symphony for Adolph Herseth and Sir Georg Solti.

Karel Husa has conducted many major orchestras including those in Paris, London, Prague, Zurich, Hong Kong, Singapore, New York, Boston, and Washington. Among numerous recordings including his own works, he made the first European disc of Bartók's *Miraculous Mandarin* with the Centi Soli Orchestra in Paris. Every year, Husa visits university campuses to guest-conduct and lecture on his music. He has conducted in all 50 American states. Recent publications include *Five Poems for Wind Quintet* (50483459) and *Sonatina for Flute and Piano* (50485074).

His music is published by Associated Music Publishers.

— September 2012

## Biography

# Karel Husa

## Dance 23' Monodrama (Portrait of an Artist) (1976) 3(pic).2+ca.2+bcl.2+cbn/4331/timp.perc/hp/str Performance materials on rental 27' The Steadfast Tin Soldier (1974) Solo: Narrator (concert version only) 2(2pic).21.asx.2(cbn)/220+btbn.0/timp.3perc/hp/str Performance materials on rental The Trojan Women (1980) 45' 2(pic,bamboo fl).1+ca.1+bcl.2(cbn)/110+btbn.0/ timp.3perc/hp.pf/str Performance materials on rental **Orchestra** 6' Celebración (1997) 3333/4331/timp.3perc/hp/str Performance materials on rental 2' **Celebration Fanfare** (1996) 3333/4331/timp.3perc/hp/str Performance materials on rental **Concerto for Orchestra** (1986) 39' 3(2pic,bfl).2+ca.2+bcl.3(cbn)/5431/timp.4perc/ hp.pf/str Performance materials on rental Score 50481211 for sale. Fresque (revised version) (1963) 11' 2+pic.2+ca.2+bcl.2+cbn/4331/timp.perc/hp.pf/str Performance materials on rental Monodrama (Portrait of an Artist) (1976) 23' 3(pic).2+ca.2+bcl.2+cbn/4331/timp.perc/hp/str Performance materials on rental Score 50238680 for sale. Music for Prague 1968 (for Orchestra) (1969) 19' 3333/4431/timp.4perc/hp.pf/str Performance materials on rental Score 50238110 for sale. Overture (Youth) (1990) 3(pic).2+ca.2+bcl.3(cbn)/4331/timp.4perc/hp.pf/str Performance materials on rental Pastoral (1979) 7' Performance materials on rental str

Performance materials on rental

Score and Part(s) 50243220 for sale.

Score 50243230 for sale.

Reflections (Symphony No. 2) (1983) 2(pic).2(ca).2(bcl).2(cbn)/2200/timp.perc/hp/str Performance materials on rental Score 50481659 for sale.	25
Symphonic Suite (1984) 3333/4331/timp.3perc/hp.pf/str Performance materials on rental Score 50482075 for sale.	19
The Trojan Women, Scenes from the ballet (1980, rev. 1988) 2(pic,bamboo fl).1+ca.1+bcl.2(cbn)/220+btbn.0/ timp.3perc/hp.pf/str (min. 6.5.4.4.2) Performance materials on rental	24
Two Sonnets from Michelangelo (1971) 332.asx.2/4331/timp.2perc/hp/str Performance materials on rental Score 50235720 for sale.	16
Soloist(s) and	
Orchestra	
Concerto for Alto Saxophone (1967) Solo: Alto Saxophone 2+2pic.2+ca.3+acl+bcl+Bbcbcl.ssx+asx+tsx+barsx[+b2/442+2btbn.1+2bar/timp.2perc/pf/[db] Performance materials on rental Score and Part(s) 50244930 for sale. Score 50244940 for sale. Reduced Score 50225760 for sale.	20'sx].
Concerto for Organ and Orchestra (1987) Solo: Organ 0000/0300/timp.2perc/str Performance materials on rental	22
Concerto for Percussion and Wind Ensemble (1970-71) Solo: 5 Percussion 3+2pic.2+ca.3+Ebcl+acl+bcl[+cbcl].2asx+tsx+barsx[+.2[+cbn]/442+btbn.2+2bar/db Performance materials on rental Score and Part(s) 50244460 for sale. Score 50244470 for sale.	18' bsx
Concerto for Trumpet and Orchestra (1987) Solo: Trumpet 2(pic).22(bcl).2(cbn)/2200/timp.3perc/hp/str	20

Reduced Score 50482088 for sale.

Work List

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## Concerto for Violin and Orchestra (1993) **Les Couleurs Fauves** (1996) 3(2pic).2+ca.3+Ebcl+acl+bcl+cbcl.2asx+tsx+barsx+bsx.2+ Solo: Violin 3(pic).2+ca.2+bcl.2+cbn/4331/timp.3perc/2hp/str cbn/442+2btbn.1+bar/timp.4perc/db Performance materials on rental Performance materials on rental Reduced Score 50484941 for sale. Score and Part(s) 50483620 for sale. Score 50483621 for sale. Concerto for Violoncello and Orchestra (1988) 27' Divertimento for Symphonic Winds and Solo: Cello 3(pic).2+ca.2+bcl.2+cbn/4331/timp.3perc/2hp/str **Percussion** (1974/95) 15' Performance materials on rental arr. by John Boyd Reduced Score 50483072 for sale. 2(pic).2(ca).3+acl+bcl+cbcl.asx+tsx+barsx.2+cbn/ Score 50482581 for sale. +2euph/perc/hp/db Performance materials on rental 27' The Steadfast Tin Soldier (1974) Text: after H. C. Andersen Music for Prague 1968 Solo: Narrator (concert version only) (for Concert Band) (1969) 2+2pic.2+ca.9+Ebcl+acl+bcl+cbcl.2asx+tsx+barsx+bsx.2+ 2(2pic).21.asx.2(cbn)/220+btbn.0/timp.3perc/hp/str Performance materials on rental cbn/4.12.3.2+2bar/timp.4perc/db Performance materials on rental Works for Score and Part(s) 50244120 for sale. Score 50244130 for sale. Band/Wind/Brass Smetana Fanfare for Wind Ensemble (1984) 3(pic).33+Ebcl+acl+bcl+cbcl.2asx+tsx+barsx+bsx.2+cbn/ **Ensemble** 4441+2euph/timp.4perc/db Performance materials on rental Score and Part(s) 50488826 for sale. **Al Fresco** (1974) Score 50480666 for sale. 2+pic.2+ca.3+Ebcl+acl+bcl.2asx+tsx+barsx+bsx[=Bbcbcl]. 2+cbn/4431+bar/timp.4perc/pf/3db Large Ensemble Performance materials on rental Score and Part(s) 50244600 for sale. Score 50244610 for sale. (7 or more players) Apotheosis of this Earth (for band) (1970) Cayuga Lake (Memories) (1992) 21' Chorus: SATB [optional] 1111/1111/perc/pf/str (1.1.1.1.0) 4(pic).33+Ebcl+acl+bcl[Bbcbcl].2asx+tsx+barsx.2+cbn/ Performance materials on rental 444+2bar.1/timp.4perc/db Performance materials on rental Divertimento for Brass and Percussion (1958) 10' Score and Part(s) 50244350 for sale. 2[=4] hn, 3tpt, 3tbn, tba, 2perc Score 50244360 for sale. Performance materials on rental Score and Part(s) 50225660 for sale. **Cheetah** (2007) 3(pic).2+ca.3+Ebcl+acl+bcl+cbcl.2asx+tsx+barsx.2/ **Drum Ceremony** 4.4+euph.1/timp.4perc/db (from An American Te Deum) (1976) Score and Part(s) 50486717 for sale. timp, 3 high tom-toms, 3 low tom-toms, 3 woodblocks, Score 50486718 for sale. temple blocks (5 players) Performance materials on rental **Concerto for Wind Ensemble** (1982) Score 50480596 for sale. 6(2pic).3(ca).9+Ebcl+acl+bcl+cbcl.2asx+tsx+barsx+bsx.2 +cbn/4842+2bar/timp.5perc Fanfare for Brass and Percussion (1980) 6' Score 50488552 for sale. 4hn.3tpt.2tbn+btbn.tba/timp[=perc] Score and Part(s) 50486548 for sale. Performance materials on rental Full Score 50486549 for sale. Score and Part(s) 50228340 for sale. **Intradas and Interludes** (1980) 18' 7 tpt, perc Score and Part(s) 50501830 for sale.

## Work List



Performance materials on rental		S
Soloist(s) and Larg Ensemble (7 or	je	\$ 2 \$ \$
more players)		<b>S</b> 2
Concerto for Trumpet and Wind Orchestra (1973) Solo: Trumpet 2+pic.2+ca.2.asx.2+cbn/4331/timp.3[+]perc/3[+]db Performance materials on rental Score 50238730 for sale. Reduced Score 50228180 for sale.	14'	S Va P T 4
Works for 2-6		<i>S</i>
<b>Players</b>		4 <i>P</i>
<b>Divertimento for Brass Quintet</b> (1974) hn, 2 tpt, tbn, tba, with optional percussion <i>Score and Part(s) 50226050 for sale.</i>	15'	<b>V</b>
Five Poems for Wind Quintet (1994) fl, ob, cl, bn, hn Score and Part(s) 50483459 for sale.	19'	S
Landscapes for Brass Quintet (1977) hn, 2tpt, tbn, tba Score and Part(s) 50228350 for sale.	22'	901 S
<b>Postcard from Home</b> (1997) Solo: Alto Saxophone pf	4'	<b>S</b> pt <i>S</i>
Score and Part(s) 50483471 for sale.		S
Recollections (1982) fl, ob, cl, bn, hn, pf Score and Part(s) 50480028 for sale.	21'	S
<b>Sonata for Violin and Piano</b> (1973) vn, pf <i>Score and Part(s) 50226730 for sale.</i>	21' 35' 20'	
Sonata à tre (1981) cl, vn, pf	20'	i
Score and Part(s) 50480029 for sale.		<b>E</b>
Sonatina for Flute and Piano (1945) arr./ed./orch. (, arr. 2002) fl, pf	15'	C 0
Score and Part(s) 50485074 for sale.		S

Midwest Celebration (Fanfare) (1996)

8 hn, 9 tpt, 9 tbn, tba, 5 perc divided into three choirs

Sonatina for Violin and Piano (1945) vn, pf	15'
Score and Part(s) 50483598 for sale.	
String Quartet No. 3 (1968) 2vn, va, vc Set of Parts 50238160 for sale. Score 50249250 for sale.	19'
String Quartet No. 4 (Poems) (1990) 2 vn, va, vc Score and Part(s) 50483967 for sale.	20'
<b>Suite for Viola and Piano</b> (1945) va, pf <i>Performance materials sold by Rental Library</i>	10'
Three Dance Sketches (1979) 4[+]perc Score and Part(s) 50236500 for sale.	19'
<b>Tubafest Celebration Fanfare</b> (1992) 4 tba <i>Performance materials sold by Rental Library</i>	3'
Variations (1984) vn, va, vc, pf Score and Part(s) 50481770 for sale.	21'
Solo Keyboard(s)	
Frammenti (1987)	6'
	6'
Frammenti (1987) org	6'
Frammenti (1987) org Score 50481212 for sale. Sonata No. 2 (1975)	
Frammenti (1987) org Score 50481212 for sale.  Sonata No. 2 (1975) pf Score 50226600 for sale.  Sonatina (1943) pf	
Frammenti (1987) org Score 50481212 for sale.  Sonata No. 2 (1975) pf Score 50226600 for sale.  Sonatina (1943) pf Score 50226530 for sale.	18'
Frammenti (1987) org Score 50481212 for sale.  Sonata No. 2 (1975) pf Score 50226600 for sale.  Sonatina (1943) pf Score 50226530 for sale.  Chorus a cappella	18'
Frammenti (1987) org Score 50481212 for sale.  Sonata No. 2 (1975) pf Score 50226600 for sale.  Sonatina (1943) pf Score 50226530 for sale.  Chorus a cappella Chorus plus 1	18'
Frammenti (1987) org Score 50481212 for sale.  Sonata No. 2 (1975) pf Score 50226600 for sale.  Sonatina (1943) pf Score 50226530 for sale.  Chorus a cappella	18'
Frammenti (1987) org Score 50481212 for sale.  Sonata No. 2 (1975) pf Score 50226600 for sale.  Sonatina (1943) pf Score 50226530 for sale.  Chorus a cappella Chorus plus 1	18'

Octavo 50483847 for sale.

Work List

Husa

## There Are From Time To Time Mornings (from An American Te Deum) (1976)

Text: Henry David Thoreau

Solo: Baritone Chorus: SATB chorus Score 50233540 for sale.

## Three Moravian Songs (1981)

Text: Ruth Martin Chorus: SATB chorus Score 50233840 for sale.

## Chorus and Orchestra/Ensemble

## An American Te Deum

for Chorus and Band (1976)

45'

Text: Henry David Thoreau, Ole RIvaag, Otokar Brezina,

folk, traditional, and liturgical sources

Solo: Baritone

Chorus: Mixed Chorus with 20-50 handbells in B-flat,

C, D, E, F any octave

4(2pic).3(ca).3+Ebcl+acl+bcl[+Bbcbcl].2asx+tsx+barsx+b

sx.2 + cbn/442 + 2btbn + 2bar.0/timp.4perc/[org]/db

Performance materials on rental Vocal Score 50506630 for sale.

## An American Te Deum for Chorus and Orchestra (1978)

4

Text: Henry David Thoreau, Ole RIvaag, Otokar Brezina,

folk, traditional, and liturgical sources

Solo: Baritone Chorus: SATB chorus

3(pic).2+ca.2+bcl.2+cbn/4431/timp.4perc/[org]/str

Performance materials on rental Vocal Score 50506630 for sale.

## Apotheosis of this Earth

(for chorus and orchestra) (1972)

Chorus: SATB Chorus

4(pic).3+ca.3+bcl.2+cbn/4441/timp.perc/str

Performance materials on rental

Score 50238350 for sale.

## **Cantata** (1982)

۸ .

26'

Text: compiled from writings of Emily Dickinson, E.A.

Robinson, and Walt Whitman

Chorus: male chorus hn, 2 tpt, tbn, tba

Performance materials on rental Reduced Score 50488707 for sale.

# Solo Voice(s) and up to 6 players

**Twelve Moravian Songs** (1956)

Text: Ruth Martin Solo: voice

pt

10'

Score 50235870 for sale.

## Work List

14'

Karel Husa

## **AVAILABILITY**

## HIRE (RENTAL)

The rental agent in your territory is the source for performance materials. Not every composition is available in every territory. Full scores, vocal scores, piano reductions, and libretti may be for sale by music dealers.

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## **UNAVAILABLE**

Due to composer revisions, performer exclusivity, or other reasons, a work may not be available.

For more information on the music of Karel Husa, please visit www.musicsalesclassical.com or contact:

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