

*A Kalmus Classic Edition*

Bedřich

# SMETANA

## QUARTET IN E MINOR

"FROM MY LIFE"

FOR TWO VIOLINS, VIOLA AND CELLO

K 03979



# STRING QUARTET

## "From My Life"

This Quartet, written in 1876, has an autobiographical significance as explained by the composer in his letter dated April 12, 1878.

THE FIRST MOVEMENT depicts Smetana's love of Art in his youth, his search for the imaginary, and the premonition of his approaching illness.

THE SECOND MOVEMENT, "Quasi Polka", refers to the carefree days of his youth and his passionate love for dancing at the period when he composed many dances.

THE THIRD MOVEMENT, "Largo Sostenuto", portrays his idyllic love for a young girl who later became his spouse.

THE FOURTH MOVEMENT pictures the composer rejoicing over the recognition attained by Bohemian National Music and its achieved success. A sudden sustained high E indicates the noise in the composer's ears prior to his deafness. Then follows a painful recollection of his youthful days, a ray of hope against hope which gives way to resignation before the inevitable destiny.

### VIOLIN I

*Allegro vivo appassionato.*

B. SMETANA

I.

The musical score for Violin I is written in G major and 2/4 time. It consists of six staves of music. The first staff begins with a forte (*sf*) dynamic, followed by a piano (*pp*) dynamic. The melody is marked with numbers 1 through 6. The second staff continues the melody with numbers 7 through 14. The third staff starts with *sf* and *pp* dynamics, with numbers 1 through 6. The fourth staff continues with numbers 7 through 13. The fifth staff is marked 'A' and features accents and *sf* dynamics. The sixth staff continues with *sf* dynamics and includes a fermata over the final note.

EDWIN F. KALMUS  
PUBLISHER OF MUSIC  
NEW YORK, N. Y.

