Antonín Dvořák’s New World Symphony: In Search of An American Voice
Singing Dvořák’s Themes

Skills/Learning Goals: ● Learning to sing and recognize six themes from of Antonín Dvořák’s New World Symphony

Big Idea: By learning to sing these themes, we will be enabled to recognize them when listening to the symphony.

Preparing for the Video: Make sure you are sitting or standing in singing positions and ready to sing along!

How to Use this Video: Sing along with teaching artist Erin Wight as she guides you through each theme. If you want, pause after each theme to continue rehearsing.

Theme 1: Allegro
Words sung by Erin: “Growing, growing, loud, getting softer”

Theme 2: Pastoral
Words sung by Erin: “Floating, falling, floating up again”

Theme 3: Goin’ Home
Words sung by Erin: “Goin’ home, goin’ home, I’m a-goin’ home”

Theme 4: Scherzo
Words sung by Erin: “Shimmy-shim-hop-hop, hop-up-shimmy-down”

Theme 5: Finale
Words sung by Erin: “Booming and powerful, play, play it strong”

Theme 6: Rolling Rhythms
Words sung by Erin: “Uppily-downily, uppily-downily, uppily bouncy, bouncy, bouncy round and around and around”

Extension: Go back to the list you made before watching the video. Does each piece of music have a steady or bumpy rhythm? Do you think they have a diatonic or pentatonic scale? Would you say they have a classical or folk feel?