

# Chronology

- 1825      September 11, born in Prague to mother Karolina Katharina Hanslik (née Kisch, daughter of non-Orthodox Jews who converted to Catholicism upon her marriage) and father Joseph Adolph Hanslik (Catholic), who at that time lived in house no. 459 in the *Altstadt*.
- 1833      The Hanslik family moved with Karolina Katharina's parents to house no. 780 in *Neustadt* (*Rossmarkt*, today known as *Wenzelsplatz*). Here Hanslick's maternal grandparents played a central role in his life, and nourished his interests in scholarly pursuits and French literature, a subject further enriched for him by his mother. Hanslick and his siblings were home-schooled by their father, from whom Hanslick inherited his intellectual preoccupation with philosophy and aesthetics. Both German and Czech (his father's native tongue) were spoken in the home, which was frequented by eminent figures in Czech cultural circles such as Václav Hanka (1791–1861), librarian of the Bohemian Museum; the historian František Palacký; and physiologist Jan Evangelista Purkyně.
- 1839      From autumn 1839 Hanslick took private music lessons with Václav Jan Tomášek.
- 1840      Successfully passed his Abitur exams. Thereupon, he enrolled for two "philosophical years" (*philosophisches Obligatsstudium*) at Prague University. His subjects were Religion, Theoretical Philosophy, Mathematics, Latin, and Natural History.
- 1843      Began his university studies, from which he was to graduate with great success. His subjects included Natural Law, Criminal Law, Statistics of European States, and Statistics of the Austrian Empire. According to Hanslick's autobiography, his mother died at this time.

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In addition to Hanslick's own writings, the sources for this timeline include Jitka Ludvová, "Einige Prager Realien zum Thema Hanslick," in *Eduard Hanslick zum Gedenken: Bericht des Symposiums zum Anlass seines 100. Todestags*, ed. Theophil Antonicek, Gernot Gruber, Christoph Landerer (Tutzing: Hans Schneider, 2010), 163–180; Geoffrey Payzant, "Translator's Preface," in *Eduard Hanslick, On the Musically Beautiful*, trans. Geoffrey Payzant (Indiana: Hackett Publishing, 1986), xi–xvii. Note that the spelling of the family name as "Hanslik" is not an error. Hanslick later changed his name to the more Germanic "Hanslick."

- 1844 Published first article as a music critic, under the pen name of “Ed-d”: “Zweites Konzert des Cäcilienvereins am 15. Dezember,” *Beiblätter zu Ost und West*, no. 203 (December 19, 1844). Hanslick continued to write occasional pieces for this paper. At this time, the family moved to Prague II, no. 985.
- 1846 From his address in Prague, Hanslick moved to Vienna to complete his final year of study in law. During this year, he also began to write music reviews for the *Wiener Allgemeine Musik-Zeitung* (including the famous 1846 review of Wagner’s *Tannhäuser*).
- 1848 Hanslick’s lied “Liebeslied unter’m Vyšehrad” was performed at the *Ständetheater*, Prague, on January 9. This lied remained in the repertoire until the 1870s. It was later recomposed as a piano transcription (*Transcription de Salon sur un Air Bohême de Dc Ed. Hanslick pour le piano Op. 692*) by a composer using the pseudonym François Behr, and published by the Prague Publishing House Hoffmann in 1896. From 1848 Hanslick also began to write music criticism for the *Wiener Zeitung*, the *Sonntagsblätter*, and other journals and papers both in and outside of Vienna.
- 1849 Graduated from the University of Vienna, as a Doctor of Philosophy in Law.
- 1850–52 Took up a temporary position at the State Finance Office in Klagenfurt.
- 1851 (?) Hanslick’s father died.
- 1852 Transferred to the Finance Ministry in Vienna upon promotion, and soon thereafter moved to another position in the Ministry of Education.
- 1853 Another of Hanslick’s lieder with the bilingual title “Der böhm’sche Musikant—Český houslista” was included on a recital program by Cecilie Soukop-Botschon at the *Ständetheater* Prague.
- 1854 Publication of the first edition of *Vom Musikalisch-Schönen*, which was recognized as his *Habilitationsschrift* in 1856 by the University of Vienna.
- 1855 Began writing music criticism for the Viennese newspaper *Die Presse*, which would in 1864 become the *Neue Freie Presse*.
- 1856 Appointed to an external, unpaid lectureship on the History and Appreciation of Music, at the University of Vienna.

- 1861 Appointed Associate Professor of the History and Aesthetics of Music at the University of Vienna (a salaried post).
- 1864 Appointed permanent music critic for the Viennese liberal daily newspaper *Neue Freie Presse*.
- 1869 Began to publish his critical writings in book form, beginning with *History of Concert Life in Vienna*.
- 1870 Appointed Full Professor at the University of Vienna, and awarded the doctorate *in honoris causa*.
- 1876 Married the singer Sophie Wollmuth (b.1856).
- 1884 Invited to contribute to the *Kronprinzenwerk* (Crown Prince's Œuvre) in Vienna, which saw twenty-four volumes appear under the official title *Die österreichisch-ungarische Monarchie in Wort und Bild* from 1885 to 1902. This invitation catapulted Hanslick to the highest level of society, where he made many valuable contacts. He devoted an entire chapter of his autobiography to this episode in his life.
- 1894 Published his autobiography, *Aus meinem Leben*.
- 1895 Retired from professional life, yet continued to write reviews on important works and premières for the *Neue Freie Presse* until his death, but with less frequency as the years continued.
- 1904 Died in Baden on August 6.