

PROGRAM NOTES: "Shine"

"Shine" was commissioned by ASCAP to honor its past president, the late Morton Gould, and by the Oregon Symphony to commemorate its Centennial Celebration. This work is a monument to these two figures of music--two musical entities that have given so much to their communities. The bold gestures and energetic pace of this work represent the accumulation of their energies; the solo passages represent the individual contributions of both figures on many different levels: the talent and love for music of each musician who makes up an orchestra and the collective talents of the individual artist that was Morton Gould. Gould was impressive in the number of things that he accomplished in being the ultimate musician: conducting and arranging for radio; writing for band, orchestra, television, film, and stage; and playing the piano in such varying venues as movie houses, dance studios, and Radio City Music Hall. The individual members of any orchestra are equally impressive in what each contributes in time, talent, and dedication through years of making music. "Shine" is a sonic snapshot of all of the energy and brilliance of these musicians, in perfection of craft, artistry of execution, and diligence and love in sharing themselves with the musical world. j.h.

This work was commissioned in 1995 and premiered by the Oregon Symphony Orchestra, James DePriest, conducting.

--Jennifer Higdon