

Cort Lippe

Program Notes

Music for Sho and Harp (1986) was commissioned by and is dedicated to Norio Kazama, who has been a generous inspiration in the creation of a repertory for sho and harp. The piece was written for the performers Mayumi Miyata and Masumi Nagasawa, who gave the world premiere in Tokyo at the Hara Museum in April, 1986,

The piece has three major sections. The first section deals with dynamic time and makes use of goal-oriented musical gestures related through synchronization between the two instruments. Section two explores the juxtaposition of dynamic time and static non-teleological time (music as sound in “space” rather than in time). The third section deals with time in the framework of space and synthesizes the methods of exploring *time* in the first two sections. This *musical time* is a self-referential phenomena, allowing for the expression of past, present, and future separately or simultaneously at any single moment.

Music for Sho and Harp won first prize in the 1987 *8th IRINO Prize for Composition*, Japan. It was also a winning composition in the 1987 *USA League-ISCM (International Society for Contemporary Musicians) Competition* in New York and was chosen as an official US entry to the *ISCM World Music Days 1988* in Hong Kong. The work is recorded on the CBS/SONY label by Mayumi Miyata and Masumi Nagasawa. Duration: 16 minutes.