GOLDEN LIGHT

A CELEBRATION PIECE
FOR SYMPHONIC WIND ENSEMBLE

DAVID MASLANKA
Instrumentation

Piccolo ................................................................. 1
1st Flute ............................................................... 2
2nd Flute ............................................................... 2
Oboe ........................................................................ 1
1st B♭ Clarinet .......................................................... 2
2nd B♭ Clarinet .......................................................... 1
B♭ Bass Clarinet ......................................................... 1
Bassoon ..................................................................... 1
1st E♭ Alto Saxophone .................................................. 1
2nd E♭ Alto Saxophone ................................................ 1
B♭ Tenor Saxophone .................................................... 1
E♭ Baritone Saxophone ............................................... 1
1st F Horn .................................................................... 2
2nd F Horn .................................................................... 2
1st B♭ Trumpet ............................................................. 2
2nd B♭ Trumpet ............................................................. 2
1st Trombone ............................................................... 2
2nd Trombone ............................................................. 1
B♭ Baritone T.C. ............................................................ 1
Baritone B.C. ............................................................... 1
Tuba .............................................................................. 1
Timpani ........................................................................ 1
Percussion 1 .................................................................. 2
  Marimba, Xylophone, Tambourine,
  Glockenspiel, Tom-Toms
Percussion 2 .................................................................. 2
  Glockenspiel, Vibraphone, 5 Sus.
  Brass Pieces (or Bell Tree), Small
  Sus. Cymbal
Percussion 3 .................................................................. 2
  Claves, 2 Bongos, 3 Tom-Toms,
  Sm. Indian Tom-Tom, Wood Block,
  Cabasa, Sm. Cow Bell, Crash Cymbal,
  Hi-Hat
Percussion 4 .................................................................. 2
  Sm. Indian Tom-Tom, Tambourine,
  Cabasa, Temple Blocks, Hi-Hat, 3 Triangles,
  5 Sus. Brass Pieces (or Bell Tree),
  Bass Drum with Cymbal
Note by the Composer

Golden Light is an energetic and joyous piece which evolved out of brisk walks in the woods of upper Manhattan near which I lived for many years. The title was inspired by the play of sunlight in the trees, especially in late afternoons. The mildly hypnotic state induced by walking at a rapid pace brought about a music of short, repetitive melodic fragments and interweaving polyrhythms. The influence is distinctly traditional African where many voices arise out of a stable tonality to weave and blend together.

Golden Light — A Celebration Piece was commissioned by the South Shore Conservatory of Hingham, Massachusetts to honor its 20th anniversary. The Conservatory is a community music school with a wide range of programs for all ages. Its Summer Wind Ensemble of advanced high school players gave the premiere performance on August 3, 1990. Malcolm W. Rowell, Director of Bands at the University of Massachusetts, conducted.

—David Maslanka

About David Maslanka

David Maslanka was born in New Bedford, Massachusetts in 1943. He studied at the New England Conservatory, the Oberlin Conservatory, the Mozarteum in Salzburg, Austria, and received a PhD in music theory and composition from Michigan State University. His principal composition teachers were Joseph Wood and H. Owen Reed. He has served on the faculties of the State University College at Geneseo, NY, Sarah Lawrence College, New York University, and Kingsborough Community College of the City University of New York.

He has received grants and fellowships from ASCAP, the MacDowell Colony, the New York State Arts Council, and the National Endowment for the Arts among many others. His music has been widely performed in the United States, and in Canada, Europe, Australia, and Japan. His works for band and wind ensemble include Concerto for Piano, Winds, and Percussion, A Child’s Garden of Dreams, Symphony No. 2. In Memoriam, Golden Light, Concerto for Marimba and Band, and Symphony No. 3. His publishers are Carl Fischer, Inc., Kjos Music Co., and Marimba Productions, Inc., and his music is recorded on CRI, Crest, Mark, UMass., and Klavier labels.

For many years a resident of New York City, he now lives in Missoula, Montana.
Full Score in C

Golden Light
(A Celebration Piece)
for Symphonic Wind Ensemble

DAVID MASLANKA

Piccolo
Flutes
Oboe
B♭ Clarinets
B♭ Bass Clarinet
Bassoon
E♭ Alto Saxophones
B♭ Tenor Saxophone
E♭ Baritone Saxophone
B♭ Trumpets (Cornets)
F Horns
Trombones
Baritone
Tuba
Timpani
Marimba
Glockenspiel
Claves
Sm. Indian Tom-Tom

j = ca. 160

1 Solo, st. mute