



NEWCOMERS

LOTHAR KLEIN

Distinguished Canadian composer Lothar Klein will write the fourth movement of the score for The National Ballet of Canada's production of NEWCOMERS. This ballet, choreographed by Brian Macdonald, was commissioned by Imperial Oil Limited on the occasion of Imperial's 100th anniversary in 1980. The work draws its inspiration from the company's motion picture series for television titled THE NEWCOMERS, which was also commissioned to mark Imperial's centenary.

For the fourth movement, Klein will provide an original finale and also incorporate material from scores composed for the television series. He himself wrote and conducted the score for THE NEWCOMERS' 1927.

Lothar Klein's music has been performed by major orchestras in Canada, the United States and Europe, and at international music festivals at Tanglewood, Mexico City and Berlin. He has written commissioned works for many prominent Canadian artists, among them Maureen Forrester, Steven Staryk, Lorand Fenyves and Joseph Macerollo. His Musica Antiqua was commissioned in 1975 by Andrew Davis and the Toronto Symphony. He has composed several award-winning film and theatre scores and, although primarily a composer of orchestral music, has also written chamber and choral works.

Josef Rufer, the eminent music historian, describes Lothar Klein's style as "imbued with classical ideals, supple lyricism, refined harmonic coloring and brilliant instrumental writing." Arthur Cohn, writing in Hi-Fidelity, praises him as "an orchestral craftsman of a very high order."

Klein is the author of a book about Igor Stravinsky and served as a consultant for the American television documentary titled Stravinsky, broadcast by CBS.

German-born, the composer studied composition in Berlin with Boris Blacher and received his academic training in the U.S. He holds a Ph.D. degree from the University of Minnesota. Since 1968 he has been a member of the University of Toronto Faculty of Music where he teaches courses in Graduate Composition, Analysis and Film Music. From 1971 to 1976 he was chairman of the University of Toronto's Graduate Department of Music.