PORTLAND SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
TOSHIYUKI SHIMADA, MUSIC DIRECTOR AND CONDUCTOR
66TH SEASON 1990-91
Teacher's Guide

UNUM Charitable Foundation
CONCERT SPONSOR
General Concert Theme

Royalty is behind the creation of many classical or art-music compositions. In the past, composers derived much of their living and social stature from the nobility, especially during the Baroque Era (c. 1600–1750), when European royal power was at its peak.

Franz Joseph Haydn is an obvious example: as a paid servant of Hungary's Esterházy princes during the 1700s, he composed all the music for the various palace functions. The result was the huge body of Haydn symphonies, chamber music, and religious music we know today.

The three works for this Youth Concert are drawn from a November 1990 PSO Candlelight Concert program, "Music for Royal Occasions." They were composed between 1698 and 1736. Two — by Jean-Joseph Mouret and George Frideric Handel — were commissioned by or dedicated to crowned heads of state. Each possesses a dignity and richness of texture befitting such origins.

The other piece of music was likely composed for the church, the other great benefactor of Baroque composers. But its creator, Marc-Antoine Charpentier, was a favorite of France's Louis XIV.

The Program

Toshiyuki Shimada, Conductor

Jean-Joseph Mouret
Marc-Antoine Charpentier
George Frideric Handel

Fanfare, from Symphony No. 1
Prelude, from Te Deum
Water Music