

*Lamento Furioso: In Memory of Edison Denisov* (1991)

Sergei Slonimsky

“The death of Edison Denisov, a friend of mine for many years, came as a deep shock to me. My *Lamento* is dedicated to his memory. In this laconic work I have used the monogram of Denisov—D—E—Es—several times. The dramatic phase of the composition leads to a chorale which is very close to the style of Denisov—that is to those of Denisov’s works which end with lofty meditation in the Gregorian chorale manner. The monogram of Denisov appears through the chorale texture.”

—Sergei Slonimsky

The world premiere of *Lamento Furioso: In Memory of Edison Denisov* was on November 4, 2005 at the International Contemporary Music Festival, Moscow Autumn Festival 2005, Moscow, Russia.

Sergei Slonimsky (born 1932, Leningrad, Russia) is the son of well-known Soviet writer Mikhail Slonimsky. In 1955, he graduated from the Leningrad State Conservatory where he studied with composer O. Evlakhov and pianist V. Nilsen. In 1958, he took post-graduate courses at the Leningrad State Conservatory as a musicologist. The theme of his dissertation is *Symphonies by S. Prokofieff*.

Slonimsky has composed more than a hundred works: five operas; two ballets; thirteen symphonies; works in all genres of chamber, vocal, choral, theatre, and cinema music; and music for children. Mostly eclectic, he has experimented with a folkloric style as well as with twelve-tone techniques and new forms of notations. He has also used forms and styles of jazz and neo-romantic music. Among his well-known works are the operas *Virineya*, *Master* and *Margarita*, *Maria Steward*, *King Lear*, *Visions of Ivan the Terrible* as well as the ballets *Ikar* and *Princess Pirlipat*. His works are widely performed in Russia and abroad.

Slonimsky is Professor of Composition at the St. Petersburg Conservatory. He is a Laureate of the State Mikhail Glinka Prize (1983), Laureate of the State Prize of Russia (2002), an Academician of the Russian Academy of Education, and the People’s Artist of Russia. The Russian city of Samara hosts an annual Slonimsky Music Festival named in his honor.