



**Chris Salocks, *The Oakland Tribune***

It's a rare symphony concert that garners more (and louder) applause for a newly commissioned world premiere than for repertoire staples by Mozart, Beethoven and Stravinsky.

But such was the case Friday night at the Paramount Theatre in Oakland, where the Oakland Symphony, conducted by Michael Morgan, presented the fourth concert in its season.

The world premiere was Jack Perla's "Trane of Thought", which features a 12 member jazz ensemble performing with the orchestra. The title is a play on words. The music is based partially on "Impressions", a composition by jazz legend John Coltrane. (The other influence on this work is Mongo Santamaria's "Afro Blue".)

The audience was caught up in the high-energy impact of Perla's music, which showed off both the ensemble and the outstanding solo playing of the jazz musicians. The work is infectious and immediately likeable, but not facile. It will stand up well to repeated performances.