

GoldGlow

Joseph Hyde 1995

(reconstructed reality)

(duration 20'00)

GoldGlow concerns the contrast between the outer world perceived by the senses and the inner world of the imagination and emotions. It concerns a particular winter numbness, when the ego seems to retreat into itself, and the mind to take on an internal life of its own, sometimes with little connection to external reality.

Two layers of sound make up the fabric of the music. On the surface is an outer layer of virtually untreated environmental sounds, all recorded one December afternoon in Bourges and presented in almost the order in which they were recorded. These sounds are thus very specifically linked to a particular place and time. Beneath is a glowing core of abstract sounds and instrumental sounds, deliberately chosen to have as little direct resonance of a particular time or place as possible.

The relationship between the two layers is very fluid. Often they are completely independent, each following its own musical flow. Sometimes an event in one will trigger a change in the other, sometimes one might temporarily take on some characteristic of the other, sometimes they will be linked by a common articulative shaping. But there is always a barrier between them, and they are never allowed to come together to form a completely homogeneous texture.

Additional Information: This piece was commissioned by the *Groupe de Musique Experimentale de Bourges*, and was realised in their studio *Charibde*. I worked on a Macintosh Pro-Tools based system, and made extensive use of several effects processing units such as an Eventide H3500. I also made use of some Sheppard tones generated at EMS on an Ircam Signal Processing Workstation. *GoldGlow* was premièred at the Bourges festival in June 1996. It has subsequently been performed several times, including at the 1996 ICMC in Hong-Kong.