

The Principle of Paradox

for N performers on any instruments

For GdaEXit

Daniel Barbiero

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The Principle of Paradox is a work for any number of performers on any instruments. The score consists of ten pages of graphic notation and four pages of verbal notation.

Both graphic and verbal pages are open to the performers' creative interpretation. Graphic elements may be interpreted as indicating relative pitches and/or durations, density of sound, timbre, dynamics, and so forth, at the performer's discretion. Verbal elements have been taken from the fragments of Heraclitus and may be interpreted as providing general advice or instruction to the performer. The vertical or horizontal orientation of the graphic pages is left up to the performer.

The number of pages to be played by each performer is to be determined before the performance, but each performer should have the same number of pages as every other performer. The sequence of pages may be determined collectively by the ensemble beforehand or may be left up to the individual performer. Verbal and graphic pages may be combined in any manner decided upon; a performance consisting of only verbal or only graphic pages is of course possible. Once the pages have been selected and their sequence determined each player should play his or her sequence of pages in order all the way through, or until a pre-selected time limit has been reached. The duration of each individual page is up to the performer.

The duration of the performance may be specified in advance of the performance or may be left open. In the latter case the performance ends by mutual agreement of the performers, any of whom may or may not have played their full sequence of pages. If a performer has played the entire sequence of pages before the performance is over, he or she remains silent until the performance ends.

ὁδὸς ἄνω κάτω

the way upward and downward

ἀγγιβάσῃν

approaching

ἀρμονία ἀφανῆς φανερῆς κρείττων

hidden harmony is preferable to obvious harmony

πάντα χωρεῖ καὶ οὐδέν μένει

everything changes & nothing remains still

















