

# TWO DIAMETRICALLY OPPOSING UNITS: VACUUM

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## *Two Diametrically Opposing Units: Vacuum & Plenum*

### Performance Instructions

There is no structured or clearly defined notational “system” as such utilized in *Two Diametrically Opposing Units: Vacuum & Plenum*. Specific performance directions are intentionally absent and traditional musical symbols are used in an ambiguous or arbitrary manner: such symbols are given the same semantic treatment as the image of a tree, a word, or a random doodle. Those instances of apparent symbolic clarity are either isolated from any meaningful context (as in *Vacuum*) or imbedded within a jumble of other visual stimuli (as in *Plenum*). It is the performers’ obligation to translate these visual images into aurally perceptible impulses, passing at will from one stimulus to another. If the work is interpreted by more than one performer, such impulses should be inevitably influenced and (to some extent) directed by the surrounding sonic environment. As a result, a wide variety of interplay is expected, and communication between performers becomes an important factor in the interpretation.

As a general (though ostensible) guideline, the realization of *Vacuum* should consist primarily of silence (or suspended periods of inactivity), while *Plenum* should consist of nearly continuous sounds (though not necessarily always loud). The order of the two movements and the duration of each are to be determined by the performer(s), though a cue of some sort may be necessary in order to begin and/or conclude the work.

— J.K. (08/82)