



QUARTET 1972

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Instrumentation: Any combination of four instruments, with or without conductor.

Materials needed: Four scores.

Four sets of folded colored cards, each set consisting of a green, yellow, red, and blue.

Sixteen colored lights, grouped in four sets of four, with control box (see instructions below and wiring diagram).

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The four performers are seated in a circle facing center. Behind each performer is a set of four colored lights visible to the other three performers. Lights are wired in eight different patterns, using one light per set for each pattern. Patterns correspond to the eight possible positions of the score and may be changed once every two minutes from a control box operated by the conductor (or by one of the performers).

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Each performer has a copy of the score and a set of four folded colored cards.

The score is printed on two sides (in mirror image), each side consisting of sixteen circles, called events. The four larger events are colored (one each of green, yellow, red, and blue). The four colored events are joined by eight connecting lines, along which are twelve smaller events. These events each contain a triangle, square, and hexagon. Seven events also contain arrows.

The triangles, squares, and hexagons identify the three parameters which determine the nature of the music within each event.



Triangle = Amplitude: The general dynamic level and its variations
(crescendo, diminuendo, accent etc.)



Square = Range: The register, high or low, and its compass.



Hexagon = Complexity/Density: In general, the amount of activity and
the intricacy of the combination of elements.



Indicates performer to your left for all parameters in event.



Indicates performer to your right for all parameters in event.

(no arrow) Indicates performer directly facing.

The Performance

1. The performance begins when the colored lights go on. Position score to coincide with the light pattern.
2. Begin at any non-colored event. The durations of all such events are freely determined by each individual performer. Perform all events along the connecting line until you reach a colored event.
3. Silence. Place a matching colored card over stand, visible to the other performers.
4. Reposition score to coincide with the lights, if necessary. (Although lights may change at any time, this is the only time you reposition score.) Remain at the same colored event.
5. Remain silent unless/until another performer shows a card of the same color. Determine whether this performer is to your left, right, or forward. Proceed along the corresponding connecting line (left, right, or forward) and perform all events along that line.
6. Stop at the next colored event. Replace colored card with one matching this event.
7. Return to step #4 and continue.

The performance ends when the colored lights go off, or when all four performers are at different colored events, thus unable to continue.

Note: The terms amplitude, range, complexity/
density, complimentary, and contrasting
may be freely interpreted.

Possible Colored Light Wiring Diagram

