

## silences

For two or more players (any instrumentation).

Duration: variable.

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## intent

The piece consists of nine (or ten) sections alternating between free and scored; the scored sections all consist of silences of different qualities asking the players to explore ways to facilitate the scored silences. In composing with scored silences, the piece attempts to challenge the idea of silence as a transcendental signifier (or of signifying nothing) and seeks to question the assumption that a piece *can* convey particular experiences for an audience—silences, in particular, can evoke vastly different responses in people experiencing the ‘same thing’. In this sense, one might read the piece as ‘impossible’ and/or an exploration of the impossibilities of communication, but hopefully one that pushes the players (and perhaps audience) to explore these impossibilities with more rigour or attention to detail.

## score

a welcoming, open silence

free

an amusing, unexpected silence

free

individual, introspective silences

free

an uncomfortable silence that feels too long

free

an ambiguous silence

(end)