

Commissioned by Birds on a Wire, David Colson, director; Western Michigan University

Dedicated to Lisa Coons

Instrumentation:

Flute (doubling piccolo)

Clarinet in Bb

Percussion:

Marimba

Vibraphone

Glockenspiel

Small Tam-Tam

Keyboard:

Piano

Celesta

*Synthesizer *)*

Violin

'Cello

**) The synthesizer sound should be pure, very little vibrato, basically sine-tone-like.
An electronic organ patch may be a possibility.
Try above all to have a simple and ethereal sound.*

Duration: c. 12'

Open/Empty is inspired by the process of breathing in meditation. But while it has its moments of peace, it also reflects the restlessness of the mind, search for resolution to its anxieties and conflicts. Hopefully by its conclusion some sense of calm emerges, but it is a never-ending struggle.

--Robert Carl