

- *en / l'espace de...*  
(XXVI – XXX)

for soprano and chamber orchestra

Thomas DeLio  
text by Stéphane Mallarmé

pureté  
double  
-identité  
-  
les yeux  
les deux points de  
vue égaux

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purity  
double  
-identity  
-  
the eyes  
the two points of  
equal sight

from *A Tomb for Anatole*, #12  
by Stéphane Mallarmé  
North Point Press, 1983

–*en / l'espace de...* (XXVI – XXX) is a setting of a brief fragment of an unfinished poem by Stéphane Mallarmé. This composition is typical of Thomas DeLio's recent work in that it is constructed from discrete segments of music that never become fixed with respect to one another through hierarchical relationships. In such works DeLio tries to isolate the direct experience of the moment. Over the past ten years he has been

moving toward a point where each work in its entirety can be regarded as a moment in isolation. This has led DeLio to reduce the size of his compositions. However, though works such as this one are very short, they are in no way sketches or miniatures. Rather, they are full-scale works that consist of a few highly compressed sound events, stripped to their essentials. These events, in turn, are surrounded by a silence which is activated by their presence. *—en / l'espace de...* is one of a succession of such works, the composition of which has extended over several years. Hence, the numerical subtitle.