

P R O G R A M N O T E S

HUMANITY AND NOT SPIRITUAL BEINGS

SOLO VOICE

JULIUS EASTMAN

January 30, 1981 8:30pm

Voice, two pianos and instruments. Musicians:

Paula Bing, flute	Matt Zory, bass
Joe Shelhart, violin	Ned Rothenberg, bass clarinet
Gretchen Paxson, violin	Michael Pugliese,
Lee Coker, viola	Joe Grable,
Ron Lawrence, viola	Rex Benincasa, and
Clarissa Howell, cello	Mike Kollmer, percussion

"The first is a vocal solo, in which words and music are of equal importance. These words express my experience and thought as a human being. The melody colors, guides, and amplifies these words which do not diminish in importance without the music, just as the music is beautiful indeed without the words. I will sing about the concept of God and his conceptual substitutes.

The second work on the program is a written work for Pianos and Instruments, based on nothing else than Harmony and Melody. Harmonies and Melodies that build step by step, conclude, and then begin again.

I have sung, played, and written music for a very long time, and the end is not in sight. I sang as a boy soprano and I still sing as a boy soprano 30 years later. I have played the old masters on the pianoforte and have appreciated their help and guidance. But now music is only one of my attributes. I could be a Dancer, Choreographer, Painter or any other kind of artist if I so wished; but right thought, speech and action are now my main concerns. No other thing is as important or as useful. Right thought, Right speech, Right action, Right music."

(Julius Eastman)

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