

The Idea of North

Program Note

The Idea of North is an extended work for solo vibraphone that evolves from rapid rhythmic pulsations to a spacious landscape of slow, repeated harmonic mobiles. With the exception of two forte outbursts, the entire piece is played quietly.

Although there is no literary connection between the music and Glenn Gould's radio documentary of the same name, it does echo the open, crystalline country depicted in Gould's landmark sound essay.

The Idea of North was composed in 1995 for Nebojsa Zivkovic (who wanted to "float on clouds") and premiered by him in Koszalin, Poland.