INTERSTICES

A Silent Fugue.

The format of this scroll is similar to the ancient Chinese handscroll, ancestor of the animated film. Both were designed to reveal consecutive visual images, composed like music, to flow through the dimension of time.

The design of this scroll is based on the structure of a musical fugue. A linear “voice” appears, is repeated at intervals, then weaves in various configurations as though seeking a symmetrically balanced pattern of unity. Finally the voices come to rest in the form of a geometric resolution, a symbol capable of reverberations to infinity.

The interstices, formal spaces between the meandering of the three linear voices, are analogous to the silences between rhythmic phrases in a musical composition. In the scroll these interstices become geometric fields, and are as essential to the development of this visual fugue as the lines which define them.

For future viewers I hope this short silent fugue will hint at the choreographic affinities between polyphonic music and pictorially designed images, and may be a faint echo of the distant source of the animated film.

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