

THE THEORY OF SILENCE65
Translated from English by A. Lipov

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The article offers a translation of David R. Kaufman's scientific article «The Theory of Silence», published in 2011 in the journal *Musical Offers*: 2011. Vol. 2: No. 1. Article 1. The article is devoted to the composition of the American composer John Cage «4'33». Based on the philosophical and aesthetic method of studying the composer's creativity, the author explores the work both as an example of the music of silence, and as an aleatoric work, since its performance includes random elements of the noise environment. According to the author, in order to understand «4'33», first of all, it is necessary to study Cage's biography, get acquainted with the events of the composer's life that led him to create this work, as well as the use of silence subsequently in almost all compositions: silence turns out to be as significant as sounds. The idea of expanding the performance space of academic concerts by using natural noises as elements of music has changed not only the concept of music, but also the musical material itself.

Keywords: Philosophy of music, experimental music, composer John Cage, «4'33», theory of silence

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