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Cort Lippe (1953 USA) studied composition with Larry Austin. He spent a year in Florence, Italy, studying ancient music and three years in Utrecht, The Netherlands, at the Instituut voor Sinologie working with G.M. Koenig in the fields of computer and formalized music. Presently he lives in Paris, where he spent three years at the Centre d'Études de Mathématique et Automatique Musicales (CEMAMu), directed by I. Xenakis, while following Xenakis' course on formalized music at the University of Paris. For the past five years he has been employed at the Institut de Recherche et Coordination Acoustique/Musique (IRCAM) where he develops realtime musical applications and gives courses on new technology in composition. His works have received numerous international composition prizes and have been premiered at major festivals in North and South America, Europe, and the Far East. His music is recorded by ADDA, Apollon, CBS-Sony, Harmonia Mundi Neuma, CDCM, and MIT Press.

Music for Harp and Tape (1990) was commissioned by and written for the harpist Masumi Nagasawa and was premiered at the Ueno Cultural Center, Tokyo in March of 1990 by Miss Nagasawa. The tape part was created using the program Max, developed by Miller Puckett - whose technical advice made this piece possible; and the digital mix of the final tape version was done at IRCAM, Paris with the valuable assistance of Xavier Bordelais. The piece is divided into four main sections.

The tape part is made up entirely of digitally transformed and processed harp sounds. All the sounds used are from the composed instrumental part. Thus the musical and sound material for the instrumental and tape parts are one and the same. The instrument/machine relationship is entirely symbiotic - the instrument and tape are equals in the musical dialogue.