

# Program Note

## **CRYSTALS II**

for tuba and analog tape  
Burton Beerman

*Crystals II* for tuba and analog tape was written in 1981 for Ivan Hammond for presentation as part of concerts he was presenting in Japan. The tape being analog is different from the digital computer works generated today, only 14 years later. But in many ways, the sounds of the tuba on the older analog tape are similar to the uses of digital samplers, today, creating a mid-world in which the acoustic instrument joins the electric. A place in which the special vocal effects are more electric than acoustic and the processing of the tuba on the tape more acoustic than electronic, producing a confusing “other world” only possible in this genre. The singing by the tuba player also draws empathy and warmth to the instrument usually reserved only for the human voice.

We console ourselves when there is no more chocolate  
With dreams  
And see the truth  
Only in ways art can tell us  
About the misplaced world  
In which we live  
I do not understand this dream  
But only feel it.