

Silence And The Ion Wind

A lead-framed doorway opens to the darkened, soundproof, padded corridor, 20 feet wide by 90 feet long. At the very end of the room of somber silence, there gleams a golden niche, a vertical, single-person sized enclave installed with ion generators. This is Eric Orr's installation at LACMA through December 14th. Visitors will not only experience perceptual changes in light and sound, they should feel a sense of well-being associated with the ion atmosphere. It's a golden silence, but not everyone is immediately privy to the benefits of ions in the air. As a friend reported, "I felt a soft breeze all about me and thought, 'Ah-hah! It's the ion wind!' But when I looked up, it was only the air conditioner."
—H.D.