



Morton Feldman: 14 Year Old Composer, Pianist and Actor!

In January 1940, aged 14, Morton Feldman graduated from Public School No. 152 in Queens, New York. The graduation ceremony marked the school's 50th anniversary, and a special celebration was organised. The programme for the event is shown below. Feldman the composer and pianist played his own composition, *Prelude in G Minor* for piano, perhaps one of the short "Scriabin-esque" pieces he later recalled writing around that time. Feldman the actor took part in the play performed at the event. After Public School No. 152, Feldman attended the High School of Music & Art, graduating from there in the Class of 1944. Thanks to Nils Vigeland for providing a copy of this programme.

Program	Program	Class of January																										
		Nineteen Forty																										
GLEE CLUB—"Ferry Me Across The Water"	READING OF SCRIPTURES	GIRLS																										
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AWARDING OF DIPLOMAS	ORCHESTRA—"God Bless America" _____ Irving Berlin	Beatrice L. Walsh																										
GLEE CLUB AND GRADUATES	GLEE CLUB—"Calm As The Night" _____ Carl Bohm	BOYS																										
Auld Lang Syne _____ Robert Burns	PLAY—"Three Pills in a Bottle"	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Fotis S. Bates</td> <td>Edward J. Farrell</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Edward R. Butler</td> <td>Morton Feldman</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Edward G. Connor</td> <td>William T. Hahnau</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jery Coppola</td> <td>Seih Kamber</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Alexander Coletti</td> <td>Tony Maurizio</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Thomas Cuniffe</td> <td>James S. Randis</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Charles W. Ecker</td> <td>George Smith</td> </tr> <tr> <td>John M. Gallagher</td> <td>David Swan</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Henry Groeber</td> <td>David Weiser</td> </tr> </table>	Fotis S. Bates	Edward J. Farrell	Edward R. Butler	Morton Feldman	Edward G. Connor	William T. Hahnau	Jery Coppola	Seih Kamber	Alexander Coletti	Tony Maurizio	Thomas Cuniffe	James S. Randis	Charles W. Ecker	George Smith	John M. Gallagher	David Swan	Henry Groeber	David Weiser								
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COLOR GUARD AND AMERICA																												
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION																												
President Board of Education _____ James Marshall																												
Superintendent _____ Harold G. Campbell																												
Assistant Superintendent _____ Frederick B. Graham																												
Assistant Principal in Charge _____ Emma H. Austera																												
LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD																												
Francis J. Schleicher, chairman																												
John Silvestro, Sec.	Mrs. Helen Christensen																											
Charles Herr	Mrs. Mae R. Bailey																											

Eighth-grade commencement program of first graduation at Public School No. 152, January 29, 1940. (From Public School No. 152 Fiftieth Anniversary booklet; Catherine Gregory collection)