

Index to

Give My Regards to Eighth Street: Collected Writings of Morton Feldman

ed. B.H. Friedman. (Cambridge: Exact Change)

Compiled by Alan Nicholson

Preliminary notes

As is the nature of indexing, the decision about what merits entry is a subjective and often difficult one. I have tried to be as comprehensive as possible here, basing choices on what I imagine will most interest the likely readers of **Give My Regards to Eighth Street**: composers, musicians, musicologists, art historians and enthusiasts.

As Feldman has a propensity for name-dropping, a sizeable number of the entries are proper names. The decision not to devote an index solely to them was made because names often have the quality of common nouns with Feldman, denoting particular practices, ideological stances or styles. Thus, it seemed sensible to place those names alongside the entries for these concerns. Subsections have been added to the important proper names to help with quick reference. These are arranged alphabetically and not numerically. This approach does, I believe, outweigh any benefit that would have been gained by splitting the index in two.

Works by Feldman and other composers / artists are placed under the first letter of that work and not under the composer's / artist's name. Basic bibliographical information is provided in parenthesis (the name of the composer / artist, date of execution and / or opus no.). Both the editor's introduction and Frank O'Hara's 'New Directions in Music: Morton Feldman' have been indexed, as have the names of the individual articles making up the book. This last step is admittedly unusual but was catalysed by B.H. Friedman's own editorial referencing. Having indexed these entries, the decision was taken to include all articles for the sake of consistency. Italics indicate a work; inverted commas an article. In the case of programme notes, I note both the work and the article's name, allowing the reader to quickly compare their respective dates. As far as the index itself is concerned, cross-referencing has been kept to a minimum but for convenience a small number of such entries exist.

Two summarising entries have been made: 'Oriental Rugs' and 'Compositional Relations'. The first covers all mention of such rugs be they Turkish, Anatolian, Yoruck, etc. The rather more slippery second attempts to cover the more abstract / general aspects of Feldman's synthesises between visual art and music. Attention has been paid throughout to conceptual vocabulary and coinages.

Finally, I have tried to be as consistent as possible but when working from index cards, omissions and mistakes will undoubtedly occur. If found, please send corrections / additions to the address below.

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