



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JUNE 27, 2008

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OTHER MINDS CD RELEASE
Conlon Nancarrow: *Studies for Player Piano*

CLASSIC LPs FROM 1750 ARCH RECORDS NEWLY REMASTERED BY OTHER MINDS

“After decades of struggle and neglect, Conlon Nancarrow is finally being recognized as one of the major American composers of the 20th century.”

–New York Times

*“With Mr. Amirkhanian's assistance the 1750 Arch label released the *Studies for Player Piano*. At the same time Soundings Press published many of the studies. Then the bombshell burst.”*

–K. Robert Schwarz, New York Times

“This music is the greatest discovery since Webern and Ives...something great and important for all of music history! His music is so utterly original, enjoyable, perfectly constructed but at the same time emotional...for me it's the best music of any composer living today.”

–composer Györgi Ligeti (1923–2006), in a letter to Charles Amirkhanian, 4 January 1981

Other Minds Records announces the release of **Conlon Nancarrow's *Studies for Player Piano*** (Other Minds Records OM 1012/1015-2, 4-CD set), originally issued on LP by 1750 Arch Records. The original recordings have been newly remastered in spectacular sound, and represent the most faithful reproduction of what Nancarrow heard in his own studio. **Other Minds Artistic Director Charles Amirkhanian**, the producer of the original recordings, explains:

“These are the last studio quality recordings made of the majority of the composer's original player piano rolls on his two different instruments in his own studio in Mexico City. As such, they come closest to the sound Nancarrow originally intended and are therefore a document of paramount importance.”

The original recordings utilized the Nancarrow's own instruments: two 1927 Ampico player pianos, one with metal-covered felt hammers and the other with leather strips on the hammers. The original LPs, published by 1750 Arch Records from 1977–1984, represented the first and most authoritative recording of the *Studies for Player Piano*, and have since become a rare collector's item.

For the *Studies for Player Piano* 4-CD set, Other Minds digitized and re-mastered the audio from the original analog tapes, on loan from the Paul Sacher Foundation in Switzerland. The Other Minds reissue includes a 52-page booklet with the original liner notes by James Tenney, an essay by producer Charles Amirkhanian and 24 illustrations. In conjunction with the CD release, Other Minds is making available rare interviews with and essays about the composer and his work, at www.otherminds.org and www.radiom.org.

Conlon Nancarrow (October 12, 1927–August 10, 1997) was born in Texarkana, Arkansas, and lived in Mexico City for most of his life. After working for years in complete obscurity, Nancarrow gained an audience in the 1980s thanks in large part to the 1750 Arch releases. In 1993 he visited San Francisco as a featured artist of the 1st **Other Minds Festival of New Music** (OM 1). For a biography, please visit www.otherminds.org/shtml/Nancarrow.shtml.

Studies for Player Piano is distributed in North America by Allegro Music, in the U.K. and Ireland by Metronome Distribution, available via download at iTunes and other leading digital outlets, and available for sale at www.otherminds.org.

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