

Contents

Acknowledgements xi

Preface xiii

Introduction 1

1 La Monte Young 21

Early years 23

Towards serialism, and away from it 28

Berkeley and Darmstadt: towards Cage, and away from him 41

New York 49

From composition to improvisation? 56

The Theatre of Eternal Music and the expansion of Young's reputation 67

The Well-Tuned Piano 80

Conclusion 88

2 Terry Riley 92

Early years 93

Europe: the search for the mystical experience 101

Return to San Francisco 108

Mexico and New York 115

The expansion of Riley's reputation and his changing aesthetic to 1976 133

Shri Camel 142

Conclusion 147

3 Steve Reich 151

Early years 153

California 156

Return to New York 170

Early minimalist compositions 176

The expansion of Reich's reputation and his changing aesthetic to 1976 207

Mature minimalist compositions 211

Music for Eighteen Musicians 231

Conclusion 247

Contents

4 Philip Glass	251
Early American years	252
Europe and the East	254
Return to New York	260
Early minimalist compositions	273
The expansion of Glass's reputation and his changing aesthetic to 1976	303
Mature minimalist compositions	307
<i>Einstein on the Beach</i>	323
Conclusion	339
<i>Notes</i>	342
<i>Discography</i>	360
<i>Bibliography</i>	365
<i>Index</i>	375