

# TEMPO

A QUARTERLY REVIEW OF NEW MUSIC

**EDITORIAL:** THE USELESS PRECAUTION

VARISPEED'S ADAPTATION OF ROBERT ASHLEY'S  
*PERFECT LIVES*

*GELSEY BELL*

SOUND, MEANING AND MUSIC-DRAMA IN  
LACHENMANN'S *DAS MÄDCHEN MIT DEN  
SCHWEFELHÖLZERN*

*LAURENCE OSBORN*

ON HORATIU RADULESCU'S FIFTH STRING QUARTET

*WILLIAM DOUGHERTY*

SYMMETRY IN THE MUSIC OF JOHN ADAMS

*ALEXANDER SANCHEZ-BEHAR*

NOTATION AS LIBERATION

*RICHARD BARRETT*

NEW MUSIC NEEDS MORE THAN A GET-WELL CARD

*FRANK DENYER*

**REVIEWS:** FIRST PERFORMANCES, CDs & DVDs,  
AND BOOKS

**PROFILE:** CHRISTIAN WOLFF

# TEMPO

EDITOR *Bob Gilmore*  
tempoeditor@cambridge.org

REVIEWS EDITOR *Juliet Fraser*  
temporeviews@cambridge.org

ADVERTISING  
Email (UK and rest of the world)  
ad\_sales@cambridge.org

Email (US) USAadsales@cambridge.org

SUBSCRIPTION ENQUIRIES  
Tel: 01223 326070  
Email: journals@cambridge.org

EMERITUS EDITOR  
*Calum MacDonald*

ADVISORY BOARD  
*Amy C. Beal*  
University of California, Santa Cruz, USA

*Davinia Caddy*  
University of Auckland, New Zealand

*Jonathan Cross*  
University of Oxford, UK

*Mark Delaere*  
KU Leuven, Belgium

*Christopher Fox*  
Brunel University, UK

*Kyle Gann*  
Bard College, USA

*Gisela Gronemeyer*  
Cologne, Germany

*Peter Hill*  
University of Sheffield, UK

*Nicholas Jones*  
Cardiff University, UK

*Robin Maconie*  
Dannevirke, New Zealand

*Gerard McBurney*  
Chicago Symphony Orchestra, USA

*François-Bernard Mâche*  
Paris, France

*Olivia Mattis*  
Huntingdon, New York, USA

*David Metzger*  
University of British Columbia, Canada

*Tim Rutherford-Johnson*  
London, UK

*Howard Skempton*  
Leamington Spa, UK

*Arnold Whittall*  
King's College London, UK

*Rachel Beckles Willson*  
University of London, UK

## Mission Statement

As a 'Quarterly Review of New Music', TEMPO exists to document the international new music scene while contributing to, and stimulating, current debates therein. Its emphasis is on musical developments in our own century, as well as on music that came to prominence in the later twentieth century that has not yet received the attention it deserves.

## Subscriptions

Tempo (ISSN 0040-2982) is published four times a year in January, April, July and October. Four parts form a volume. The subscription price for volume 68 (Nos. 267–270), which includes delivery by air where appropriate (but excluding VAT) is £101 (US \$154 in USA, Canada and Mexico) for institutions (print and electronic); £82 (US \$139) for institutions (electronic only); £26 (US \$43) for individuals ordering direct from the publishers and certifying that the journal is for their personal use (print only). EU subscribers (outside the UK) who are not registered for VAT should add VAT at their country's rate. VAT registered members should provide their VAT registration number. Japanese prices for institutions (including ASP delivery) are available from Kinokuniya Company Ltd, P.O. Box 55, Chitose, Tokyo 156, Japan.

Orders, which must be accompanied by payment, may be sent to a bookseller, subscription agent or direct to the publisher: Cambridge University Press, The Edinburgh Building, Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8RU; or in the USA, Canada and Mexico: Cambridge University Press, Journals Fulfillment Department, 100 Brook Hill Drive, West Nyack, New York 10994-2133. Periodicals postage paid at New York, NY and at additional mailing offices.

## Copying

This journal is registered with the Copyright Clearance Center, 222 Rosewood Drive, Danvers, MA 01923, USA. Organizations in the USA who are also registered with the C.C.C. may therefore copy material (beyond the limits permitted by sections 107 and 108 of U.S. Copyright law) subject to payment to the C.C.C. of the per copy fee of \$12. This consent does not extend to multiple copying for promotional or commercial purposes. Code 0040-2982/2014 \$12. ISI Tear Sheet Service, 3501 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104, USA, is authorized to supply single copies of separate articles for private use only. Organizations authorized by the Copyright Licensing Agency may also copy, material subject to the usual conditions. For all other use, permission should be sought from Cambridge or from the American Branch of Cambridge University Press.

This journal is included in the Cambridge Journals Online service which can be found at [journals.cambridge.org](http://journals.cambridge.org).

This journal issue has been printed on FSC-certified paper and cover board. FSC is an independent, non-governmental, not-for-profit organization established to promote the responsible management of the world's forests. Please see [www.fsc.org](http://www.fsc.org) for information.

Printed in the UK by Bell & Bain.

cover design: Studio Isabelle Vigier

© Cambridge University Press 2014

# TEMPO

## A QUARTERLY REVIEW OF NEW MUSIC

EDITOR *Bob Gilmore* / REVIEWS EDITOR *Juliet Fraser*

VOLUME 68 NO. 268 APRIL 2014

3 EDITORIAL: THE USELESS PRECAUTION

ARTICLES

6 *THE STORY OF THE HUGE FACE OF AN ARRANGEMENT*:  
VARISPEED'S ADAPTATION OF ROBERT ASHLEY'S *PERFECT LIVES*  
*Gelsey Bell*

20 SOUND, MEANING AND MUSIC-DRAMA IN LACHENMANN'S  
*DAS MÄDCHEN MIT DEN SCHWEFELHÖLZERN*  
*Laurence Osborn*

34 ON HORATIU RADULESCU'S FIFTH STRING QUARTET  
(*'BEFORE THE UNIVERSE WAS BORN'*) OP. 89  
*William Dougherty*

46 SYMMETRY IN THE MUSIC OF JOHN ADAMS  
*Alexander Sanchez-Behar*

61 NOTATION AS LIBERATION *Richard Barrett*

ON MY MIND

73 NEW MUSIC NEEDS MORE THAN A GET-WELL CARD  
*Frank Denyer*

FIRST PERFORMANCES

75 Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival 2013: 1  
*Sara Mohr-Pietsch*

77 Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival 2013: 2  
*Phil Maguire*

79 Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival 2013: 3  
*Richard Glover*

80 BBC Orchestras round-up *Paul Conway*

82 Wigmore Hall string quartets *Stephen Graham*

83 Kreutzer Quartet *Paul Conway*

84 Kammer Klang *Stephen Graham*

85 Festival d'Automne 2013 *Martin Kaltenecker*

88 TRANSIT Festival *Peter Reynolds*

89 From the Muziekgebouw *Sarah Jeffery*

TRIBUTE

92 Ned Rorem at 90 *Bret Johnson*

CDs AND DVDs

94 Boulez box-set *Peter O'Hagan*

96 Tom Johnson/Samuel Vriezen *Evan Johnson*

97 Robyn Schulkowsky & Claire Edwardes *Lauren Redhead*

99 Philip Cashian & Joseph Phibbs *Bernard Hughes*

101 Philip Grange *Martin Kier Glover*

102 George Perle *Colin Clarke*

103 Paavo Heininen & Magnus Lindberg *Guy Rickards*

105 Opera DVDs: George Benjamin, Thomas Adès & Ed Hughes  
*Leo Chadburn*

BOOKS

108 Music in the Twentieth and Twenty-first Centuries  
*Tim Rutherford-Johnson*

109 Robert Ashley & Alvin Lucier *Rodney Lister*

113 Brian Ferneyhough *Paul Griffiths*

116 Music in Germany since 1968 *Ian Pace*

121 Wandelweiser books: Jürg Frey & Antoine Beuger  
*Samuel Vriezen*

PROFILE

124 Christian Wolff

127 CONTRIBUTORS