

# contact

Contact: A Journal for Contemporary Music (1971-1988)

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MUSICS

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HUGH DAVIES

The idea of starting a new magazine took shape after a three-way telephone conversation between Evan Parker and Mandy and Martin Davidson. A number of people from various musical backgrounds responded to the idea of a magazine devoted to new (primarily improvised) music and new ideas on music, and met to discuss how such a publication could take shape.

It was agreed from the beginning that the only way to produce the magazine with the limited financial resources available was to type, print, collate, staple and distribute it ourselves. Otherwise there would be a long period of preliminary fund-raising (and possible compromise). We each contributed £4.00 to provide the initial funds. If there is enough money in our bank account we increase the print-run (currently 800).

As for content, *Musics* takes shape from the material sent to us and the ideas of the people willing to work on it. Each issue is edited by a different editor or editorial group and is sometimes devoted to a single subject (No.5: Music/Context, edited by David Toop; No.7: Dutch issue, edited by Peter Cusack and myself). The June/July issue, No.8, edited by Steve Beresford, Paul Burwell and John Russell, was followed by an issue on Performance Art edited by Tom Puckey.

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