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*Luc Ferrari - Complete Works*, or A Sketch of French contemporary music's *enfant terrible*. An English translation under the aegis of Thurston Moore.

Let's celebrate Luc Ferrari's 90th birthday with the long awaited English version of his complete works, published by Thurston Moore and Eva Prinz!

Luc Ferrari would have turned 90 in 2019. To mark this anniversary, his complete works have been translated into English and published in Britain. Until now, most of the books dealing with the *enfant terrible* of French contemporary music were published in French.

Two years ago, Brunhild Ferrari & Jérôme Hansen edited *Luc Ferrari — Music in the Spasms — Writings 1951-2005*, published by Les Presses du Réel (2017). The book gathered some early poems, extracts from an unpublished novel which gave an account of a difficult life (*Musique dans les Spasmes*), and exclusive interviews with François-Bernard Mâche and Christian Zanési. This material, though fascinating to the composer's fans, was only available in French until now, making it inaccessible to most Ferrari enthusiasts. This is why this publishing feat by Thurston Moore and his partner Eva Prinz has been welcomed with enthusiasm.

The French edition contained the following: a preface by Jim O'Rourke and an introduction by Brunhild Ferrari, then poems and compositions by Luc Ferrari, followed by his reflections on his major works. Then came a strongly worded letter to Pierre Schaeffer, torn between love and bitterness, as well as some autobiographical fragments, extracts from an unpublished novel and numerous interviews — with François-Bernard Mâche about the piece *Presque Rien*, with Catherine Millet on "high and low" culture, with Christian Zanési about Hermann Scherchen's time in Gravesano, with Pierre-Yves Macé and David Sanson on those chance events that become decisive moments. The book ends with a timeline of his works and an index.

The new English edition contains, in addition to the contents mentioned above (all of which are also translated of course): a collection of Ferrari's early poems, an interview with Daniel Caux (1979), an interview about jazz with Francis Hoffstein (1981), a lecture titled "Artistic production in the city" (1981 in Avignon), and then some information and reflections on all of his compositions (whereas the French edition only focused on his major works), organized in chronological order. The book closes on Luc Ferrari's collages and paintings. A foreword by Thurston Moore was added to O'Rourke's preface. The contents thus rightly deserves the title *Complete Works*.

Thicker than the French edition, and printed on better quality paper, the opus also presents a vast selection of photographs, music scores and film stills. It is not only aimed at Luc Ferrari's fans but at anyone interested in French and European contemporary music.