

# La Monte Young The Well-Tuned Piano

7-LIMIT TUNING  
based on perfect 3/2 fifths and pure natural 7/4 sevenths

notated using the Extended Helmholtz-Ellis JI Pitch Notation  
microtonal accidentals designed by Marc Sabat and Wolfgang von Schweinitz

Transcription based on  $D_{\uparrow}$  (raised by a septimal comma)

Wolfgang von Schweinitz  
October 26, 2006

49/32      147/128      441/256      1323/1024

7/4      21/16      63/32      189/128      567/512

1/1      3/2      9/8

$\flat$   $\sharp$   $\#$  notate pitches from the basic series of untempered perfect fifths ( $3/2$ ) = 702.0 cents.

$\downarrow$   $\uparrow$  notate an alteration by one septimal comma ( $64/63$ ) = - or + 21.5 cents.

$\downarrow\downarrow$   $\uparrow\uparrow$  notate an alteration by two septimal commas ( $(64/63)^2$ ) = - or + 43.0 cents.

The notes in brackets represent the keys played on the piano keyboard.

another possible notation:

Transcription based on  $E_{\flat}$

49/32      147/128      441/256      1323/1024

7/4      21/16      63/32      189/128      567/512

1/1      3/2      9/8

# La Monte Young The Well-Tuned Piano

7-LIMIT TUNING  
based on perfect  $3/2$  fifths and pure natural  $7/4$  sevenths

THE SCALE  
notated using the Extended Helmholtz-Ellis JI Pitch Notation  
microtonal accidentals designed by Marc Sabat and Wolfgang von Schweinitz

Wolfgang von Schweinitz  
October 26, 2006

Diagram showing interval ratios for the first scale:

- 16 : 21
- 16 : 21
- 7 : 9
- 27 : 32
- 7 : 8
- 6 : 7
- 6 : 7
- 7 : 8
- 6 : 7
- 7 : 8
- 8 : 9
- 27 : 28
- 7 : 8

sounding pitches

63 : 64    512 : 567    63 : 64    48 : 49    8 : 9    63 : 64    8 : 9

63/32    1/1    567/512    9/8    147/128    1323/1024    21/16

played keys

- $\flat$   $\sharp$   $\natural$  notate pitches from the basic series of untempered perfect fifths ( $3/2$ ) = 702.0 cents.
- $\flat$   $\natural$  notate an alteration by one septimal comma ( $64/63$ ) = - or + 21.5 cents.

Diagram showing interval ratios for the second scale:

- 16 : 21
- 7 : 9
- 27 : 32
- 6 : 7
- 64 : 81
- 6 : 7
- 7 : 9
- 6 : 7
- 7 : 9
- 7 : 8
- 7 : 8
- 27 : 28
- 7 : 8
- 7 : 8

63 : 64    48 : 49    8 : 9    63 : 64    8 : 9    63 : 64

189/128    3/2    49/32    441/256    7/4    63/32    1/1

# La Monte Young : The Well-Tuned Piano

## THE INTERVALS

notated using the Extended Helmholtz-Ellis JI Pitch Notation

*a transcription of the list presented by Kyle Gann in his article "La Monte Young's The Well-Tuned Piano"*

*(published in 'Perspectives of New Music', volume 31 no. 1, 1993)*

Wolfgang von Schweinitz

October 27, 2006

4/3 (498 c)

3/2 (702 c)

Two staves of musical notation. The upper staff contains a sequence of chords and intervals, and the lower staff contains a corresponding sequence of notes and intervals.

8/7 (231 c)

7/4 (969 c)

12/7 (933 c)

7/6 (267 c)

Two staves of musical notation. The upper staff contains a sequence of chords and intervals, and the lower staff contains a corresponding sequence of notes and intervals.

14/9 (765 c)

9/7 (435 c)

16/9 (996 c)

9/8 (204 c)

Two staves of musical notation. The upper staff contains a sequence of chords and intervals, and the lower staff contains a corresponding sequence of notes and intervals.

32/21 (729 c)

21/16 (471 c)

28/27 (63 c)

27/14 (1137 c)

Two staves of musical notation. The upper staff contains a sequence of chords and intervals, and the lower staff contains a corresponding sequence of notes and intervals.

31/27 (294 c)

27/16 (906 c)

64/49 (462 c)

49/32 (738 c)

72/49 (666 c)

49/36 (534 c)

96/49 (1164 c)

49/48 (36 c)

Two staves of musical notation. The upper staff contains a sequence of chords and intervals, and the lower staff contains a corresponding sequence of notes and intervals.

64/63 (27 c)

63/32 (1173 c)

112/56 (561 c)

81/56 (639 c)

128/81 (792 c)

81/64 (408 c)

256/147 (960 c)

147/128 (240 c)

Two staves of musical notation. The upper staff contains a sequence of chords and intervals, and the lower staff contains a corresponding sequence of notes and intervals.

256/189 (525 c)

189/128 (675 c)

512/441 (258 c)

441/256 (942 c)

1024/567 (1023 c)

567/512 (177 c)

2048/1323 (756 c)

1323/1024 (444 c)

Two staves of musical notation. The upper staff contains a sequence of chords and intervals, and the lower staff contains a corresponding sequence of notes and intervals.

# La Monte Young The Well-Tuned Piano

## THE CHORDS

notated using the Extended Helmholtz-Ellis JI Pitch Notation

a transcription of some note examples in Kyle Gann's article "La Monte Young's The Well-Tuned Piano"  
(published in 'Perspectives of New Music', volume 31 no. 1, 1993)

	<i>The Opening Chord</i>	$7 : 9 \quad 7 : 9 \quad 27 : 32$ $27 : 28 \quad 27 : 28 \quad 8 : 9 \quad 8 : 9$	<i>The Magic Chord</i>
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4 : 6 : 7 : 8 : 9 : 12                      81 : 84 : 108 : 112 : 144 : 162 : 192 : 216

<i>The Romantic Chord</i>	<i>The Gamelan Chord</i>	<i>The Tamiar Dream Chord</i>	<i>The 189/98 Lost Ancestral Region</i>	<i>The Brook</i>	<i>The Pool</i>
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84	81	27	27	21	224
81	64	24	24	18	192
72	54	18	21	16	147
64	42	14	18	14	144
56			14	12	128
54			12		
48					

$\flat \sharp \#$  notate pitches from the basic series of untempered perfect fifths ( $3/2$ ) = 702.0 cents.

$\flat \flat \sharp$  notate an alteration by one septimal comma ( $64/63$ ) = - or + 21.5 cents.