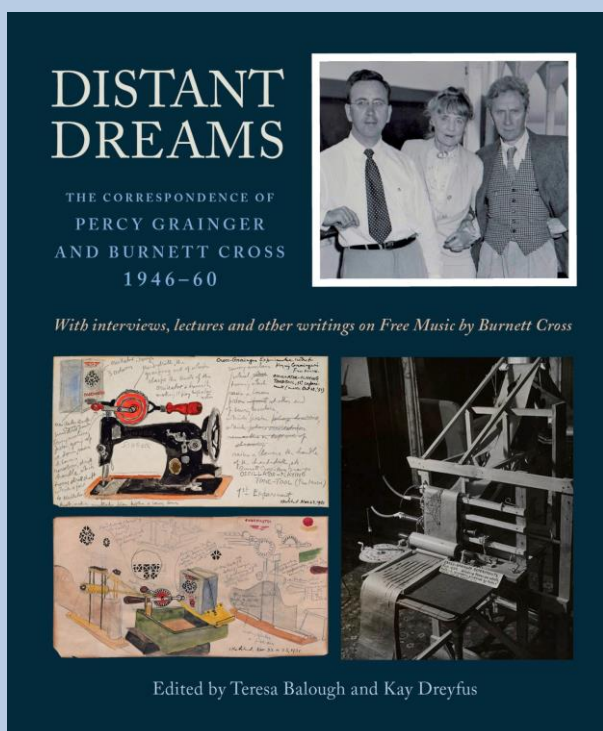


Distant Dreams

The correspondence of Percy Grainger and Burnett Cross, 1946-60



With interviews, lectures and other writings on
Free Music by Burnett Cross

Edited by Teresa Balough and Kay Dreyfus
(Lyrebird Press, 2020)

Percy Grainger's childhood imagining of a music capable of reproducing the sounds of nature was translated, in his later life, into the creation of wondrously inventive "Free Music" machines. Mostly made from found materials, these machines take their place in a proud tradition of sound art, at a point where the aural and the visual intersect.

Two minds converged on the creation of the machines: the one self-taught and intuitive, the other scientifically trained and rigorous. The exchange of letters between the two men charts their journey of discovery and the friendship that grew from it: a grand passionate human adventure.

Contents

List of illustrations
Foreword by Warren Burt
Acknowledgements
Editors' note

Introduction
PART 1 "A very happy occupation"
Correspondence between Percy Grainger and Burnett Cross, 1944-60
PART 2 "A man of high intelligence and lively imagination"
Selected interviews, lectures and other writings on Free Music by Burnett Cross

Chronology of the letters
Select bibliography
Index

Teresa Balough is an adjunct professor of music history at Eastern Connecticut State University. Her books on Grainger include *A Musical Genius from Australia: Selected Writings by and about Percy Grainger* (UWA, 1982, 1997) and *Comrades in Art: The Correspondence of Ronald Stevenson and Percy Grainger: 1957-61* (Toccata, 2010).

Kay Dreyfus is an associate at the Australian Centre for Jewish Civilisation (ACJC) at Monash University. As curator at the Grainger Museum from 1974 to 1987 she edited *The Farthest North of Humanness: Letters of Percy Grainger 1901-14* (Macmillan, 1985) and in 2015 she co-edited *Grainger the Modernist* (Ashgate).

Available now as an [e-book/pdf](#) (AU\$20) and, from December, in [paperback](#) (AU\$40, plus postage) from the Lyrebird Press e-shop.

For information please contact lyrebirdpress-info@unimelb.edu.au

