

Alex Ross: The Rest Is Noise

Books, articles, and a blog by the music critic of *The New Yorker*

Apex 2019



"Aus LICHT" at the Holland Festival.

At the *New Yorker* website may be found my list of [Notable Performances and Recordings of 2019](#), which also mentions highlights of the decade now ending.

The Rest Is Noise Person of the Year is [Lara St. John](#).

Some notable music books of 2019: Andrew Patner's *A Portrait in Four Movements* (University of Chicago Press), Arní Heimir Ingólfsson's *Jón Leifs and the Musical Invention of Iceland*, Mark Stryker's *Jazz from Detroit* (University of Michigan Press), Nicole Grimes's *Brahms's Elegies* (Cambridge UP), Susan McClary's *The Passions of Peter Sellars* (University of Michigan Press), Mark Berry's *Arnold Schoenberg* (University of Chicago Press), Damon Krukowski's *Ways of Hearing* (MIT Press), Oliver Soden's *Michael Tippett: The Biography* (Weidenfeld & Nicolson).

Outside of music, I read with great enjoyment Shoshana Zuboff's *The Age of Surveillance Capitalism* (Public Affairs), Susan Neiman's *Learning from the Germans: Race and the Memory of Evil* (FSG), Jia Tolentino's *Trick Mirror*, Patrick Keefe's *Say Nothing*, Andrew Marantz's *Antisocial*, and Amy Waldman's *A Door in the Earth*, among others.

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