

Tom Johnson, born in Colorado in 1939, received B.A. and M.Mus. degrees from Yale University, and studied composition privately with Morton Feldman. After 15 years in New York and wrote about modern composition for The Village Voice from 1972-1982, he moved to Paris, where he has lived since 1983. He is considered a minimalist, since he works with simple forms, limited scales, and generally reduced materials, but he proceeds in a more logical way than most minimalists, often using formulas, permutations, predictable sequences and various mathematical models.

Since most current mathematical art is computer graphics, it may be good to have some homemade hand drawn works in the exhibition, and I am proud to submit one or two. My training is neither in art nor in mathematics, but rather in music and music theory. I began doing drawings with numbers as a means of finding musical structures for my compositions, but in many cases I consider the drawings valid works of art, even when they did not lead to good musical compositions.