DISCUSSION AND COMMENT

Butor's Beethoven: A Bibliographical Footnote

When I wrote my review of Michel Butor's Dialogue avec 33 variations (IFR, 3 [1976], 65-9), I had not been able to see the dossier on Butor and music in the periodical Musique en Jeu 4 (1971), 63-111, which includes a full account of the genesis of the work by the animator of the Liége lecture, Henri Pousseur ("Ecoute d'un dialogue," pp. 73-82). It appears that Pousseur approached Butor in the spring of 1970, and that the first version was written in July and August. At the concert itself (17 September), Butor was able to present only a portion of what he had noted, and he wrote to Pousseur on 20 September: "Je vais réécrire mon dialogue pour en faire, pour commencer, un petit livre. Je vais réaliser dans le texte, la double grande reprise irréalisable en concert." This answers my question about the relationship of the book to the actual concert (p. 67).

On line 15 of the same page, the word "works" should have read "words."

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