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Pitches/Turfs/Arenas/Fields

By Richard Kostelanetz

Archae Editions, United States, 2012. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 279 x 216 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.This is the fourth and final collection of Geometries, as I came to call the poems with only four, eight, or sixteen words, placed in the corner of a rectangle or rectangles within rectangles. Mostly written in the late 1970s, they appeared in the chapbook Turfs/Arenas/Fields/Pitches (High Koo, 1980), the fuller book Arenas/Fields/Turfs/Pitches (BNkMk, 1982), and then Pitches/Turfs/Arenas/Fields (Runaway Spoon, 1990). This volume completes part of a continuing record of poetic inventions. Looking back, I see these poems reflecting artistic Constructivism, which remains my favorite among the classic modernist movements, and then Minimalism, true minimalsim, which was a major innovation of the 1970s, likewise originating in the visual arts. For all their essential verbalness, these poems reflect developments and perceptual issues developed in other arts. In a preface to previous collections I wrote about wanting to explore ways in which four (and then eight and sixteen) distant words might become more than the sum of their parts. That s still true, as is my addendum: Ideally, much of the poetry occurs between the words. -Richard Kostelanetz.

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Reviews

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