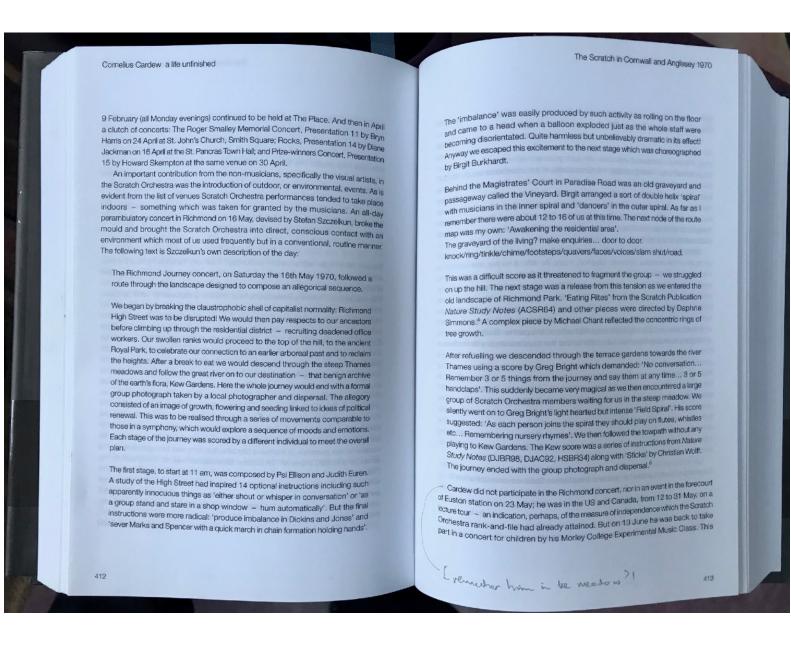
The Richmond Journey May 1970

Concerts in the Scratch Orchestra were arranged by the youngest members first. So my chance came fairly soon after joining. I decided to arrange an walking concert in the area I lived in at the time - Richmond Hill.

It was my overall concept, whilst I invited participants to choose or compose rites and lead at the different stages (nodes). Now it feels, that in musical terms, and in relation to the democratic and collectivist ethos of the Scratch, I was 'the composer' rather than simply the organiser of this concert.. So I think, now, I can claim the Richmond journey to be a composition - and with a score that could be revisited half a century later.

Cardew and the serious older composers chose not to take part in the first part of the concert. The first act at 11am was to destroy the atmosphere of commercial calm in the plush Dickens and Jones department store on Richmond High Street. Perhaps they weren't up for such confrontational actions, outside of the relative safety of the concert hall, at that stage? (Later Cardew increasingly came into contact with the police especially after he became a militant communist.)

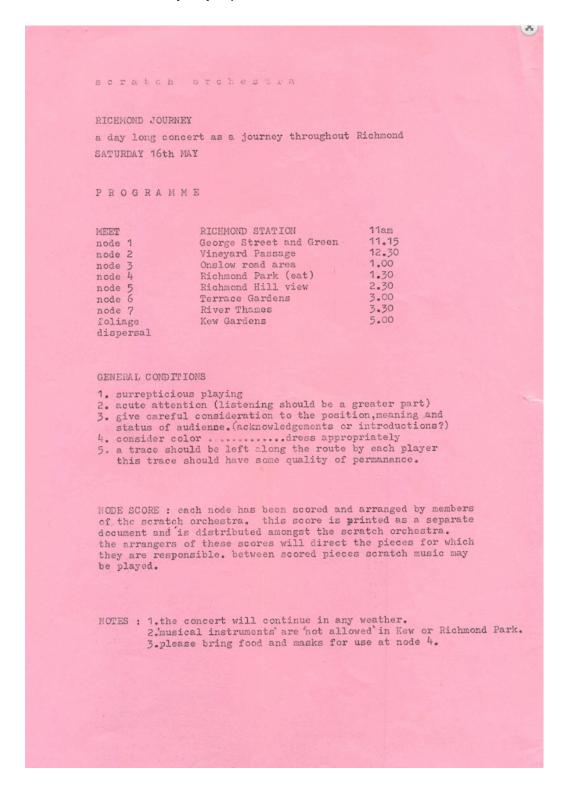
The Journey then visited the spirits of the dead in an old graveyard in Vineyard Passage before climbing up through the main residential area. As is often he case when I get to

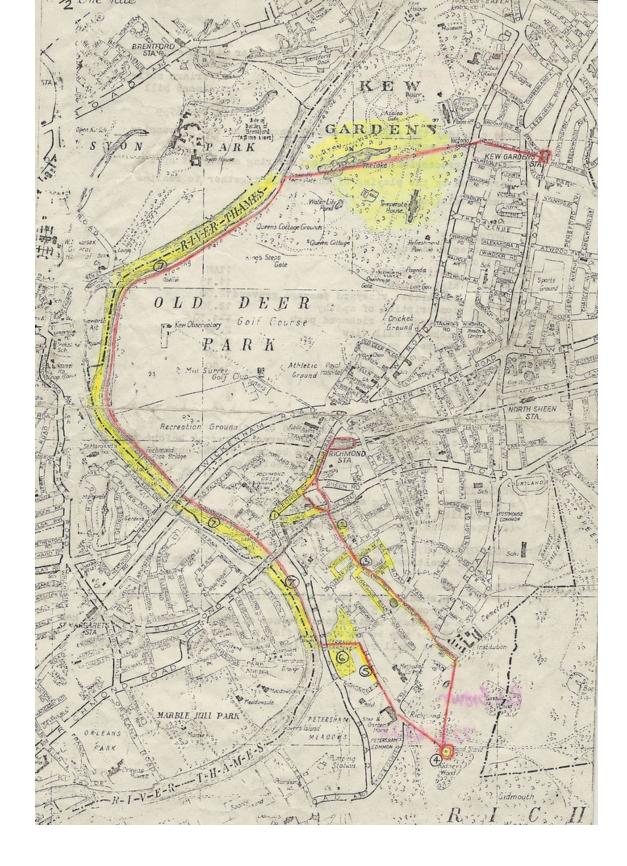


organise my dreams as reality, the exercise was close on to impossible as we were instructed to knock on doors and persuade people to join us going up to Richmond Park which was to represent a utopian escape (rather than back to nature!)

After this we went down to river via the Terrace Gardens meadow. Here we met the 'serious' or older musicians who were waiting for us to arrive to perform a piece by Greg Bright. A mighty relief for me at that stage, to get reinforcements as I had been getting a bit strung out.

Read what John Tilbury says. p.412 See illustration above.





I don't seem to have the detail pages which state the people who chose the rites to be played at each node and what rites they were. Hopefully they are at the MayDay Rooms archive.