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In Search of Murmurings (Full Score)

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In Search of Murmurings

Luke Martin

Full Score

Spring 2014
Instrumentation

Conductor

Alto Saxophone

Violin

Piano
"In Search of Murmurings" is deeply indebted to my reading of Marcel Proust's *Swann's Way* and explores his concept of recombining lost memories in the liminal space of our inner selves. Certain moments in the piece act as aural triggers for *memory eruptions* into my lost and fragmented experience of past composers' works. As much as this piece is an exploration of Proust, it is also an exploration of myself. By following these memory eruptions, I am departing from the convention, expected, and narrative path; I am asking: what happens when I allow the illogical and non-linear to take control?

*Polyphony*

When they became silent
   A jarring mass of sounds rose up inside you, unfamiliar and hesitant

When they resumed speaking it was deafening, but comfortable, slipping into place
   A tiny prick
   Underneath your Heart.

When they came for you, to
   Name you, to bring you with them, it was
     As if you were a stone in the ocean being
       Smashed up against a massive wall of rock – eternal brain damage, smoothened
       And perfect for skipping –
       All tearing smothering pain compressed

When they came for you
   You went.

That was the last thing you remember.

   They promised they could ease the pain, make it disappear.
   They promised they could take away the uncertainty.

   *implant choirs between auditory canals*
   *rearrange and replace,*

   *staple newspaper labels*
   *onto every sweating forehead, now*
   *dripping bleeding and covered*
   *up by oversized top-hats*

   They promised they could give you a sweeping violin line, warm strings wrapped, securely.

And you listened

You begged to listen.
In Search of Murmurings

Tempos (aprx): 60 - 75 - 100 - 130

Alto Saxophone

Violin

Piano

Conductor’s Notes (in italics):
*Do not conduct first silence*
*Cue*

Alto Sax.

Vln.

Pno.

*Cue*
subtone

*Cue*
sul pont.

*Cue*
ord.

*Cue*

Alto Sax.

Vln.

Pno.

*Cue*

*Cue*

Alto Sax.

Vln.

Pno.

*Cue*

*Cue*

emphasize first note of each slur

Luke Martin
As quiet as possible

sul tasto triple stop II-IV

bite reed

airnote (no pitch, just fingers moving)
Conduct with one hand only.

multiphonic (make it nasty)

bite reed

*Cue*
sax can ghost the rhythmically less-significant of these notes if nec'y
Improvisate based off of the given notes, out of tempo.

*Continue improv based off of the given notes, but not stay in time.*