

amid the noise

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***Our scientific power has outrun our spiritual power;
We have guided missiles and misguided men. -MLK, Jr.***

Instrumentation: Rhythmic noise element; sustaining chord element; optional ambient or chance noise element; drone.

Harmony/Melody: Sustaining instrument performs the chords, using the length of each word in the quote as a guide for length of sustain. Each letter represents 1", so that the first chord will sustain for 3" (our), the second 10" (scientific), etc. The first group of 4 chords must be used exclusively for the first line of text (Our...power). The second group of 2 chords may be mixed in for the second line (We...men). Chords may be chosen freely, **but only the top or bottom voice may change from one to the next, not both.**

choose from these chords for first line

add these chords to 2nd line



Drone: C natural above middle C. It can be smooth or active.

Noise: (optional element) Radio broadcast, ambient noise, crinkling paper, etc.

Rhythm: More than one rhythmic element performs a combination of binary elements without coordinating with each other (for percussionists, R and L hand sequences). Using the quote, vowels = one element (R), consonants = the other (L). A fast enough sequence is preferred so that the parts go in and out of sync, creating a noisy chatter. These sequences loop until the sustaining instrument changes to a new chord. The sustaining instrument and the rhythmic element will follow the form of the quote together.

For a percussionist, the first line of the score might read as follows:

Our scientific power has outrun our spiritual power
RRL LLRLLRLRLR LRLRL LRL RLLRL RRL LLRLRLRL LRLRL

Form: Proceed through the quote any number of times. Duration of each letter can exceed 1" if desired.