

MUSK

By Cat Hope (2019)

For Georg and Xiao.

RED String Instruments, accordion, voice
Guitar with ebow (or fast soft plectrum
patterns)

BLACK Wind, brass Instruments,
percussion, plectrum guitar/keyboard

The score is proportional, with the highest point of the screen being the highest, the bottom being the lowest. There are 12 parts, with two parts per 'page'. The middle parts begin – with the idea that the sound starts in the middle and works its way to the entrances of the tunnel.

The speed of the piece is variable. Start softly, make volume increase and changes very dramatic.

The score should be read in the Decibel ScorePlayer application on an iPad, so that all the parts may be viewed individually.

Cathope.com

Program Note

This piece imagines a comparison between the Elbe Tunnel in Hamburg, Germany and the more recent Elon Musk tunnel experiments in Los Angeles, USA. As the Elbe tunnel was intended in 1911, the proposed Musk tunnel system is designed to send cars underground to travel in tunnels, but to avoid the 'chaos above'. Musk's dedicated tunnel making company, The Boring Company, created the first tunnel in late 2018, and tested it with Musk's Tesla electric cars. The tunnels are oddly both connected to cinema – the Elbe tunnel was featured in the 1970s film 'The Odessa File' and Musk's first tunnel is named 'Godot'. The piece ruminates on these comparisons, and begins in the middle of the tunnel, exploring how sound can travel in directions different to those for which it was designed.

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