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Rung Past Unending Glimmer is a musical work for seven voices performed through an amplified sampler. An algorithmic formulation triggers the sampler, deploying seven distinct waveforms tuned in a just-intonation scale devised by the composer.

The piece interrogates the possibility of creative agency enacted beyond the ontological boundaries imposed by a demiurgic principle. It situates this question within metaphysical debates on will, manifestation, and structural constraint: if all acts of creation must pass through a primal animating force, then any attempt to generate form outside this lineage becomes not only transgressive but ontologically incoherent.

Diana Correia has produced electronic music since 2004, beginning within black metal's anti-theistic vocabulary before moving through noise, extreme computer music, and into electroacoustic composition. Raised in Guimarães, a medieval Portuguese town marked by Catholic signifiers dating to the Dark Ages, she has consistently challenged this inheritance across two decades of practice. Her work traces a continuum linking extreme metal's transgressive affect to contemporary compositional inquiry, paralleling broader tendencies in experimental music by which spiritual and acoustic concerns intersect through rigorous formal constraint. As a transgender woman, she approaches questions of agency, transformation, and imposed limits through lived experience of marginalisation.

Composed in winter 2025, the work reflects on contemporary global violence and the increasing legitimisation of cruelty within geopolitical discourse. It rejects explanatory frameworks (religious, philosophical, or naturalising) that assimilate atrocity into coherent systems. The piece refuses the notion that collective violence is an inevitable expression of nature or divine architecture, and rejects the consolations of cosmologies that accommodate such suffering. Instead, it foregrounds the affective and conceptual necessity of refusal, reflecting on the collective trauma of a civilisation confronting its own capacity for systematic brutality.

Diana employs J. R. R. Tolkien's cosmology as a controlled distancing mechanism for analysing Catholic doctrines of creation. In his mythopoesis, angelic beings sing a cosmic theme that is given material form through the Sacred Fire of Ilúvatar, the singular creator-god. This animating principle substantiates reality from sound. The Elves awaken beneath starlight with innate faculty for language, their will expressed through naming and singing. Crucially, even dissent (exemplified by Morgoth) remains circumscribed by this ontological origin: his apparent perversion of the cosmic song is ultimately subsumed into the creator's design. *Rung Past Unending Glimmer* imagines an alternative architecture in which such dissent might enact liberation rather than deformation, reframing blasphemy as a mode of ontological emancipation.

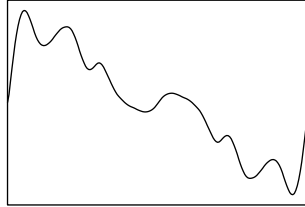
Musically, *Rung Past Unending Glimmer* employs ringing as a metaphor for world-making. The base frequency of the microtonal scale derives from the atomic weight of the radioactive isotope platinum-190. In Tolkien's legendarium, captured light constitutes a means by which people preserve a memory of creation and pure beauty. Here, decaying platinum functions as a natural signifier of sublimity within the constraints of material reality. Its lustrous, reflective surface parallels the visual quality of starlight — both material and celestial manifestations of a shared luminosity. The prominence of flattened scale degrees generates a harmonic environment defined by suspension and instability.

The rhythmic pulse originates from measured nocturnal wave periodicity along the coastline where Diana spent her childhood summers — an echo of the Elven awakening beneath starlight, abstracted into algorithmic form. The work engages the tradition of organ repertoire within European liturgical contexts, yet reconfigures its spiritual and sonic implications. By recontextualising a tradition historically embedded in patriarchal and exclusionary religious institutions, the piece interrogates who has been permitted to create within sacred or authoritative frameworks.

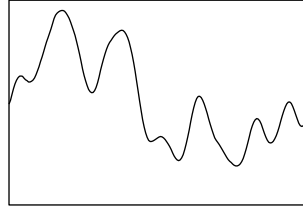
The conceptual architecture draws on Emil Cioran's *mauvais démiurge*, in which existence is shaped by a creator whose design renders cruelty an intrinsic property of being. In dialogue with this, the piece examines the viability of refusal within a totalising metaphysical system. Where Spinoza posits a single substance expressing itself through infinite attributes (a unified ontology in which all emanates from one source) Deleuze counters with irreducible multiplicities in which difference is productive rather than derivative. *Rung Past Unending Glimmer* positions itself within this Deleuzian impulse, seeking a multiplicity outside the monistic demiurgic structure. It aspires to a sonic gesture that sounds toward an outside of the demiurgic domain rather than antagonising it from within.

Ultimately, the work presents itself as aspirational rather than declarative: a speculative gesture insisting on the possibility of resonating beyond the constraints that define being. Its act of ringing becomes an assertion of will directed toward an outside whose existence remains uncertain yet imaginatively indispensable. This is the work's fundamental affect: not triumphant transgression but a stubborn refusal of imposed limits, a decision to ring toward an outside that may never exist. Whether such violation is possible or impossible, the work insists on declaring the intent, refusing to accept that what *is* must determine all that can *be*.

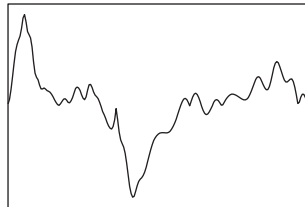
Diana Correia (b. Portugal) is a composer and sound artist based in Berlin. Working primarily as Marie Dior, her extensive practice investigates the distortion of pure tones, relating them to bodies and materials undergoing transformational decay. As a transgender woman, her work approaches questions of agency and mutability from the perspective of a queer woman of a marginalised gender.



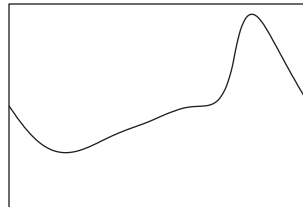
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Awakening star



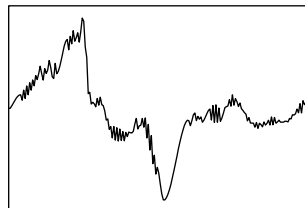
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Glittering star



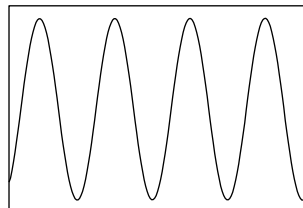
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Lost silver



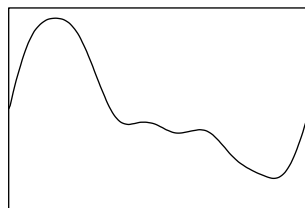
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Outer shadow



မံၣ်ဇံာ်ဇံာ်
Echoing voice



မံၣ်ဇံာ်ဇံာ်
My song



မံၣ်ဇံာ်ဇံာ်
Icing thread