Ends / Notes

The idea for this originated with a granular synthesis piece I started this summer. I intended to use the creative process as a personal way to cope with the deluge of news stories about African American men being killed by police. Keith Lamont Scott was killed in Charlotte the day I started the work. Justin Carr was killed while protesting the death of Scott before I could finish the piece. I've heard first-hand accounts from protestors that insist Carr was killed by police, while CHPD claims he was killed by another civilian. This inspired me to abandon my previous approach and explore data-based approach to composition, and I discovered that the Washington Post maintained a data on all fatal police shootings since January 1, 2015.

Themes
- Continuum between the factual and the metaphorical.
  - "died" vs. "gave up the ghost"

- The dichotomy of the remembered and the forgotten.
  - a flood of words that becomes unreadable, consolidating into an image of a symbolic figure

- Contexts in which we trivialize or revere death in language.
  - "left the mortal coil" vs. "croaked"

- An exploration on societal norms that contribute to marginalization, criminalization and death

Plans / Experimentation
- Map city data to latitude/longitude and place text on-screen according to where the person was killed
- Translate text appearances to a proportional timescale; e.g. 1 day = 1 second