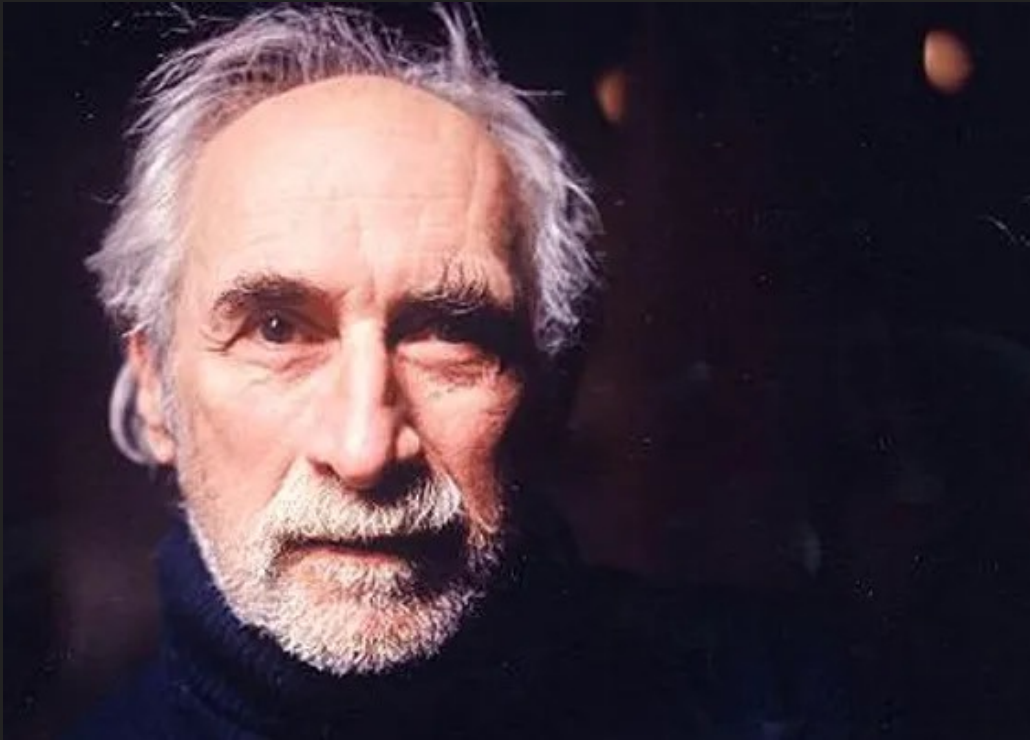


SUNNY KNABLE

RZEWSKI AND THE MUSIC OF CHANGE

RZEWSKI AND THE MUSIC OF CHANGE

FREDERIC RZEWSKI (1938–2021)



THE PEOPLE UNITED WILL NEVER BE DEFEATED

▶ **Salvadore Allende** - Chilean leader of the Popular *Unidad* movement



▶ **Sergio Ortega** - Chilean composer of "*El pueblo unido...*"



COMING TOGETHER



- ▶ **Attica Prison riots**

- ▶ Attica, NY, 1971

- ▶ 43 killed

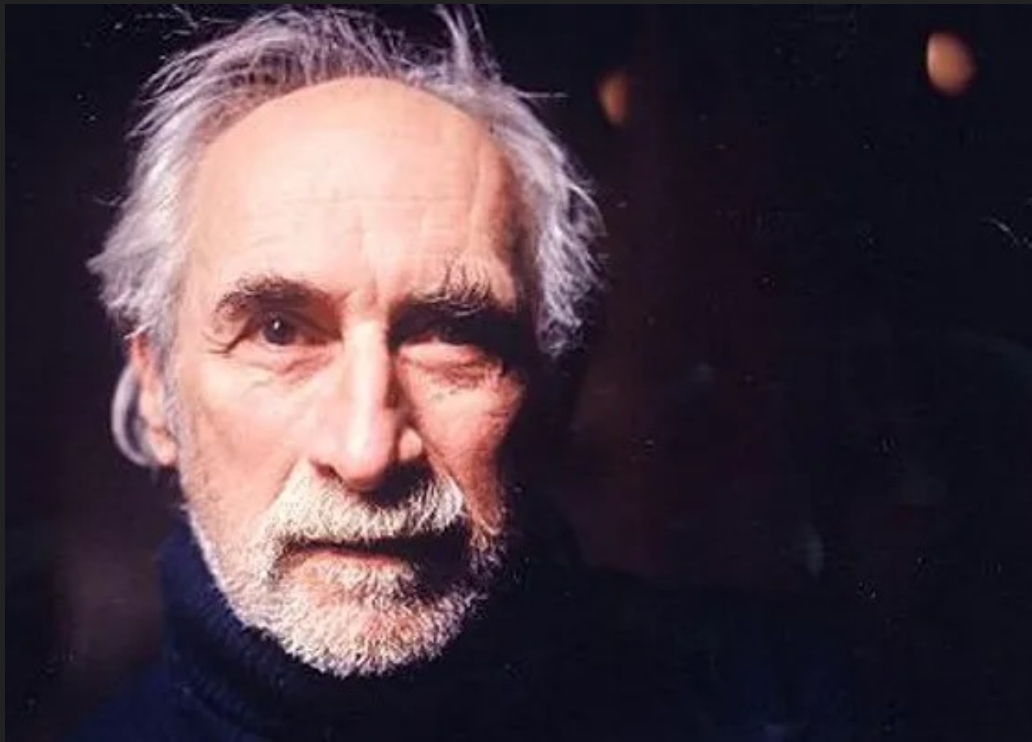
- ▶ **Sam Melville (1934-1971)**



- ▶ Anarchist

- ▶ Prisoner

FREDERIC RZEWSKI (1938–2021)



- ▶ ***Coming Together*** (1971)
 - ▶ 10 players - open instrumentation
 - ▶ Indeterminate music
- ▶ ***The People United
Never Be Defeated*** (1976)
 - ▶ Piano solo - fixed instrumentation
 - ▶ Determinate music

FREDERIC RZEWSKI (1938–2021)

- ▶ **Commonalities:**

- ▶ formal design
- ▶ modernist and tonal materials
- ▶ extra-musical elements

- ▶ ***Coming Together* (1971)**

- ▶ 10 players - open instrumentation
- ▶ Indeterminate music

- ▶ ***The People United
Never Be Defeated* (1976)**

- ▶ Piano solo - fixed instrumentation
- ▶ Determinate music

COMING TOGETHER



- ▶ **Attica Prison riots**

- ▶ Attica, NY, 1971

- ▶ 43 killed

- ▶ **Sam Melville (1934-1971)**



- ▶ Anarchist

- ▶ Prisoner

COMING TOGETHER

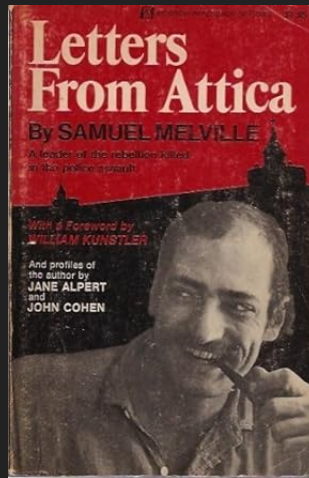
- ▶ Rzewski on the response to the Attica Prison riots:
 - ▶ "An atrocity that demanded of every responsible person that had any power to cry out, that he cry out."

COMING TOGETHER

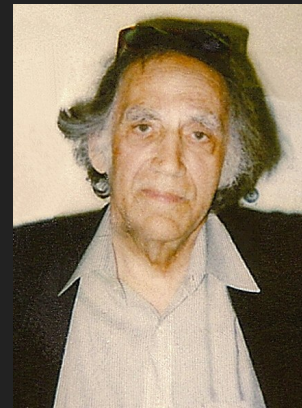
▶ Sam Melville (1934-1971)



- ▶ Anarchist
- ▶ Prisoner



▶ William Kunstler (1919-1995)



- ▶ Attorney
- ▶ Civil rights activist

COMING TOGETHER

▶ **Musicians Action Collective (MAC)**

- ▶ New York City, 1970s
- ▶ Benefit concerts for
 - ▶ United Farm Workers
 - ▶ Attica Defense
 - ▶ Chilean solidarity movement

▶ ***Musica Elettronica Viva (MEV)***

- ▶ Rome, Italy, 1966-2017
- ▶ Use of synthesizers
- ▶ Audience participation
- ▶ Inciting demonstrations

RZEWSKI AND THE MUSIC OF CHANGE

COMING TOGETHER

► Part I: Coming Together

Frederic Rzewski

COMING TOGETHER

A $\text{♩} = 80-84$

1 I THINK¹ ff 2 THE COMBINATION pp

3 OF AGE 4 AND A GREATER COMING TOGETHER

5 IS RESPONSIBLE 6 FOR THE SPEED

7 OF THE PASSING TIME. 8 I THINK

Part II: Attica

ATTICA
(Coming Together, Part Two)

$\text{♩} = 80-84$ Frederic Rzewski (1971)

5

Voice: 9 ATTICA

13

17 ATTICA

21 IS

25

RZEWSKI AND THE MUSIC OF CHANGE

COMING TOGETHER – FORMAL CONSTRUCTION

COMING TOGETHER – FORMAL CONSTRUCTION

- ▶ **Sam Melville's text:**

COMING TOGETHER – FORMAL CONSTRUCTION

- ▶ **Sam Melville's text:**

- ▶ I think / the combination / of age / and a greater coming together
/ is responsible / for the speed / of the passing of time

COMING TOGETHER – FORMAL CONSTRUCTION

- ▶ **Sam Melville's text:**

- ▶ I think / the combination / of age / and a greater coming together
/ is responsible / for the speed / of the passing of time

- ▶ **additive and subtractive process of text in Coming Together**

COMING TOGETHER – FORMAL CONSTRUCTION

- ▶ **Sam Melville's text:**

- ▶ I think / the combination / of age / and a greater coming together
/ is responsible / for the speed / of the passing of time

- ▶ **additive and subtractive process of text in Coming Together**

- ▶ 1 12 123 1234 12345 123456 1234567

COMING TOGETHER – FORMAL CONSTRUCTION

- ▶ **Sam Melville's text:**

- ▶ I think / the combination / of age / and a greater coming together
/ is responsible / for the speed / of the passing of time

- ▶ **additive and subtractive process of text in Coming Together**

- ▶ 1 12 123 1234 12345 123456 1234567

- ▶ 12345678 2345678 345678 45678 5678 678 78 8

RZEWSKI AND THE MUSIC OF CHANGE

COMING TOGETHER – PERFORMANCE PROCEDURE

COMING TOGETHER – PERFORMANCE PROCEDURE

- ▶ Rzewski's instruction:

COMING TOGETHER – PERFORMANCE PROCEDURE

- ▶ Rzewski's instruction:
 - ▶ "...the musicians should try to interpolate freely improvised passages that depart from this rule, with the condition that they do not get lost. It is hard not to get lost, so that to be free... [it] requires a struggle."

RZEWSKI AND THE MUSIC OF CHANGE

COMING TOGETHER – FORMAL ANALYSIS

COMING TOGETHER – FORMAL ANALYSIS

Lines of text	Sections	Instructions	Perceived form
<u>1</u>	A.	big attack and sustain	<i>a</i>
12			
123			
1 <u>2</u> 34	B.	high players accent/low players sustain a 'G'	<i>b</i>
1234 <u>5</u>	C.	like A but more activity, 2-3 notes chains of notes	<i>a₁</i>
123456			
<u>1</u> 234567	D.	like B, roles reversed, high B-flats sustain, low stacc.	<i>b₁</i>
<u>2</u> 345678	E.	short melody with rests	<i>c</i>
<u>3</u> 45678	F.	similar to E, with virtuoso character, random notes	<i>c₁</i>
4 <u>5</u> 678	G.	similar to E, with hocketing effect, expanding rests	<i>c₂</i>
567 <u>8</u>	H.	all notes unison	<i>d</i>
678			
78			
8			

RZEWSKI AND THE MUSIC OF CHANGE

COMING TOGETHER – BASIC MATERIALS

COMING TOGETHER – BASIC MATERIALS

1

Frederic Rzewski

COMING TOGETHER

A ♩ = 80-84

1 THINK¹ 2 THE COMBINATION

ff *pp*

3 OF AGE 4 AND A GREATER COMING TOGETHER

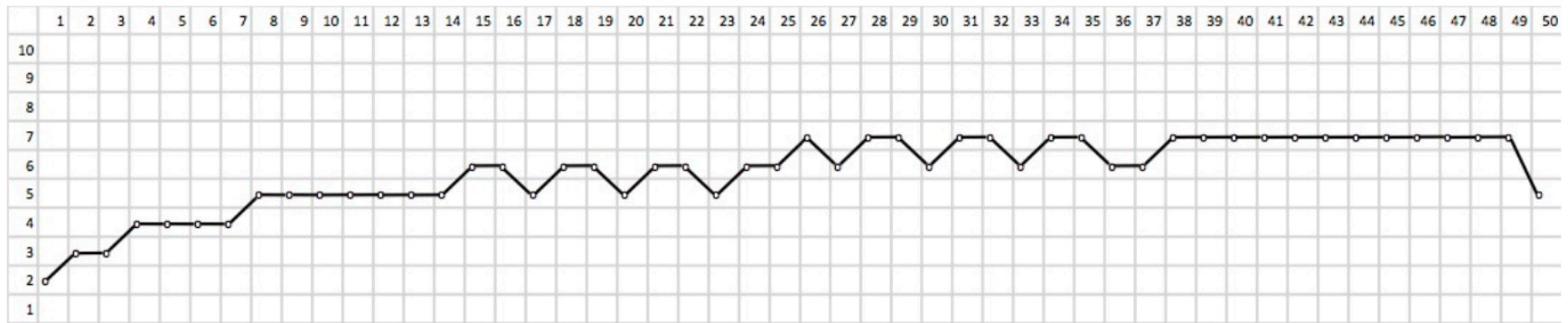
The musical score is written in bass clef, 4/4 time, with a tempo of 80-84. It consists of two staves. The first staff contains measures 1 through 8, with dynamics 'ff' and 'pp' indicated. The second staff contains measures 9 through 16. The music features a repeating eighth-note pattern with some variations in the later measures.

RZEWSKI AND THE MUSIC OF CHANGE

COMING TOGETHER – EXPANSION/CONTRACTION OF BASSLINE

COMING TOGETHER – EXPANSION/CONTRACTION OF BASSLINE

Example 4: “A” section of *Coming Together* – ratio of measures (1-50) to notes per measure



RZEWSKI AND THE MUSIC OF CHANGE

COMING TOGETHER – RETROGRADE ENDING

COMING TOGETHER – RETROGRADE ENDING

Example 3: *Coming Together*, mm. 1-2

A $\text{♩} = 80-84$

I THINK¹ ² THE COMBINATION

The musical score is written on a single staff in bass clef with a 4/4 time signature. It begins with a rest in the first measure. The melody starts in the second measure with a half note G2, followed by eighth notes A2, B2, C3, D3, E3, F3, G3, A3, B3, C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5, A5, B5, C6, D6, E6, F6, G6, A6, B6, C7, D7, E7, F7, G7, A7, B7, C8, D8, E8, F8, G8, A8, B8, C9, D9, E9, F9, G9, A9, B9, C10, D10, E10, F10, G10, A10, B10, C11, D11, E11, F11, G11, A11, B11, C12, D12, E12, F12, G12, A12, B12, C13, D13, E13, F13, G13, A13, B13, C14, D14, E14, F14, G14, A14, B14, C15, D15, E15, F15, G15, A15, B15, C16, D16, E16, F16, G16, A16, B16, C17, D17, E17, F17, G17, A17, B17, C18, D18, E18, F18, G18, A18, B18, C19, D19, E19, F19, G19, A19, B19, C20, D20, E20, F20, G20, A20, B20, C21, D21, E21, F21, G21, A21, B21, C22, D22, E22, F22, G22, A22, B22, C23, D23, E23, F23, G23, A23, B23, C24, D24, E24, F24, G24, A24, B24, C25, D25, E25, F25, G25, A25, B25, C26, D26, E26, F26, G26, A26, B26, C27, D27, E27, F27, G27, A27, B27, C28, D28, E28, F28, G28, A28, B28, C29, D29, E29, F29, G29, A29, B29, C30, D30, E30, F30, G30, A30, B30, C31, D31, E31, F31, G31, A31, B31, C32, D32, E32, F32, G32, A32, B32, C33, D33, E33, F33, G33, A33, B33, C34, D34, E34, F34, G34, A34, B34, C35, D35, E35, F35, G35, A35, B35, C36, D36, E36, F36, G36, A36, B36, C37, D37, E37, F37, G37, A37, B37, C38, D38, E38, F38, G38, A38, B38, C39, D39, E39, F39, G39, A39, B39, C40, D40, E40, F40, G40, A40, B40, C41, D41, E41, F41, G41, A41, B41, C42, D42, E42, F42, G42, A42, B42, C43, D43, E43, F43, G43, A43, B43, C44, D44, E44, F44, G44, A44, B44, C45, D45, E45, F45, G45, A45, B45, C46, D46, E46, F46, G46, A46, B46, C47, D47, E47, F47, G47, A47, B47, C48, D48, E48, F48, G48, A48, B48, C49, D49, E49, F49, G49, A49, B49, C50, D50, E50, F50, G50, A50, B50, C51, D51, E51, F51, G51, A51, B51, C52, D52, E52, F52, G52, A52, B52, C53, D53, E53, F53, G53, A53, B53, C54, D54, E54, F54, G54, A54, B54, C55, D55, E55, F55, G55, A55, B55, C56, D56, E56, F56, G56, A56, B56, C57, D57, E57, F57, G57, A57, B57, C58, D58, E58, F58, G58, A58, B58, C59, D59, E59, F59, G59, A59, B59, C60, D60, E60, F60, G60, A60, B60, C61, D61, E61, F61, G61, A61, B61, C62, D62, E62, F62, G62, A62, B62, C63, D63, E63, F63, G63, A63, B63, C64, D64, E64, F64, G64, A64, B64, C65, D65, E65, F65, G65, A65, B65, C66, D66, E66, F66, G66, A66, B66, C67, D67, E67, F67, G67, A67, B67, C68, D68, E68, F68, G68, A68, B68, C69, D69, E69, F69, G69, A69, B69, C70, D70, E70, F70, G70, A70, B70, C71, D71, E71, F71, G71, A71, B71, C72, D72, E72, F72, G72, A72, B72, C73, D73, E73, F73, G73, A73, B73, C74, D74, E74, F74, G74, A74, B74, C75, D75, E75, F75, G75, A75, B75, C76, D76, E76, F76, G76, A76, B76, C77, D77, E77, F77, G77, A77, B77, C78, D78, E78, F78, G78, A78, B78, C79, D79, E79, F79, G79, A79, B79, C80, D80, E80, F80, G80, A80, B80, C81, D81, E81, F81, G81, A81, B81, C82, D82, E82, F82, G82, A82, B82, C83, D83, E83, F83, G83, A83, B83, C84, D84, E84, F84, G84, A84, B84, C85, D85, E85, F85, G85, A85, B85, C86, D86, E86, F86, G86, A86, B86, C87, D87, E87, F87, G87, A87, B87, C88, D88, E88, F88, G88, A88, B88, C89, D89, E89, F89, G89, A89, B89, C90, D90, E90, F90, G90, A90, B90, C91, D91, E91, F91, G91, A91, B91, C92, D92, E92, F92, G92, A92, B92, C93, D93, E93, F93, G93, A93, B93, C94, D94, E94, F94, G94, A94, B94, C95, D95, E95, F95, G95, A95, B95, C96, D96, E96, F96, G96, A96, B96, C97, D97, E97, F97, G97, A97, B97, C98, D98, E98, F98, G98, A98, B98, C99, D99, E99, F99, G99, A99, B99, C100, D100, E100, F100, G100, A100, B100, C101, D101, E101, F101, G101, A101, B101, C102, D102, E102, F102, G102, A102, B102, C103, D103, E103, F103, G103, A103, B103, C104, D104, E104, F104, G104, A104, B104, C105, D105, E105, F105, G105, A105, B105, C106, D106, E106, F106, G106, A106, B106, C107, D107, E107, F107, G107, A107, B107, C108, D108, E108, F108, G108, A108, B108, C109, D109, E109, F109, G109, A109, B109, C110, D110, E110, F110, G110, A110, B110, C111, D111, E111, F111, G111, A111, B111, C112, D112, E112, F112, G112, A112, B112, C113, D113, E113, F113, G113, A113, B113, C114, D114, E114, F114, G114, A114, B114, C115, D115, E115, F115, G115, A115, B115, C116, D116, E116, F116, G116, A116, B116, C117, D117, E117, F117, G117, A117, B117, C118, D118, E118, F118, G118, A118, B118, C119, D119, E119, F119, G119, A119, B119, C120, D120, E120, F120, G120, A120, B120, C121, D121, E121, F121, G121, A121, B121, C122, D122, E122, F122, G122, A122, B122, C123, D123, E123, F123, G123, A123, B123, C124, D124, E124, F124, G124, A124, B124, C125, D125, E125, F125, G125, A125, B125, C126, D126, E126, F126, G126, A126, B126, C127, D127, E127, F127, G127, A127, B127, C128, D128, E128, F128, G128, A128, B128, C129, D129, E129, F129, G129, A129, B129, C130, D130, E130, F130, G130, A130, B130, C131, D131, E131, F131, G131, A131, B131, C132, D132, E132, F132, G132, A132, B132, C133, D133, E133, F133, G133, A133, B133, C134, D134, E134, F134, G134, A134, B134, C135, D135, E135, F135, G135, A135, B135, C136, D136, E136, F136, G136, A136, B136, C137, D137, E137, F137, G137, A137, B137, C138, D138, E138, F138, G138, A138, B138, C139, D139, E139, F139, G139, A139, B139, C140, D140, E140, F140, G140, A140, B140, C141, D141, E141, F141, G141, A141, B141, C142, D142, E142, F142, G142, A142, B142, C143, D143, E143, F143, G143, A143, B143, C144, D144, E144, F144, G144, A144, B144, C145, D145, E145, F145, G145, A145, B145, C146, D146, E146, F146, G146, A146, B146, C147, D147, E147, F147, G147, A147, B147, C148, D148, E148, F148, G148, A148, B148, C149, D149, E149, F149, G149, A149, B149, C150, D150, E150, F150, G150, A150, B150, C151, D151, E151, F151, G151, A151, B151, C152, D152, E152, F152, G152, A152, B152, C153, D153, E153, F153, G153, A153, B153, C154, D154, E154, F154, G154, A154, B154, C155, D155, E155, F155, G155, A155, B155, C156, D156, E156, F156, G156, A156, B156, C157, D157, E157, F157, G157, A157, B157, C158, D158, E158, F158, G158, A158, B158, C159, D159, E159, F159, G159, A159, B159, C160, D160, E160, F160, G160, A160, B160, C161, D161, E161, F161, G161, A161, B161, C162, D162, E162, F162, G162, A162, B162, C163, D163, E163, F163, G163, A163, B163, C164, D164, E164, F164, G164, A164, B164, C165, D165, E165, F165, G165, A165, B165, C166, D166, E166, F166, G166, A166, B166, C167, D167, E167, F167, G167, A167, B167, C168, D168, E168, F168, G168, A168, B168, C169, D169, E169, F169, G169, A169, B169, C170, D170, E170, F170, G170, A170, B170, C171, D171, E171, F171, G171, A171, B171, C172, D172, E172, F172, G172, A172, B172, C173, D173, E173, F173, G173, A173, B173, C174, D174, E174, F174, G174, A174, B174, C175, D175, E175, F175, G175, A175, B175, C176, D176, E176, F176, G176, A176, B176, C177, D177, E177, F177, G177, A177, B177, C178, D178, E178, F178, G178, A178, B178, C179, D179, E179, F179, G179, A179, B179, C180, D180, E180, F180, G180, A180, B180, C181, D181, E181, F181, G181, A181, B181, C182, D182, E182, F182, G182, A182, B182, C183, D183, E183, F183, G183, A183, B183, C184, D184, E184, F184, G184, A184, B184, C185, D185, E185, F185, G185, A185, B185, C186, D186, E186, F186, G186, A186, B186, C187, D187, E187, F187, G187, A187, B187, C188, D188, E188, F188, G188, A188, B188, C189, D189, E189, F189, G189, A189, B189, C190, D190, E190, F190, G190, A190, B190, C191, D191, E191, F191, G191, A191, B191, C192, D192, E192, F192, G192, A192, B192, C193, D193, E193, F193, G193, A193, B193, C194, D194, E194, F194, G194, A194, B194, C195, D195, E195, F195, G195, A195, B195, C196, D196, E196, F196, G196, A196, B196, C197, D197, E197, F197, G197, A197, B197, C198, D198, E198, F198, G198, A198, B198, C199, D199, E199, F199, G199, A199, B199, C200, D200, E200, F200, G200, A200, B200, C201, D201, E201, F201, G201, A201, B201, C202, D202, E202, F202, G202, A202, B202, C203, D203, E203, F203, G203, A203, B203, C204, D204, E204, F204, G204, A204, B204, C205, D205, E205, F205, G205, A205, B205, C206, D206, E206, F206, G206, A206, B206, C207, D207, E207, F207, G207, A207, B207, C208, D208, E208, F208, G208, A208, B208, C209, D209, E209, F209, G209, A209, B209, C210, D210, E210, F210, G210, A210, B210, C211, D211, E211, F211, G211, A211, B211, C212, D212, E212, F212, G212, A212, B212, C213, D213, E213, F213, G213, A213, B213, C214, D214, E214, F214, G214, A214, B214, C215, D215, E215, F215, G215, A215, B215, C216, D216, E216, F216, G216, A216, B216, C217, D217, E217, F217, G217, A217, B217, C218, D218, E218, F218, G218, A218, B218, C219, D219, E219, F219, G219, A219, B219, C220, D220, E220, F220, G220, A220, B220, C221, D221, E221, F221, G221, A221, B221, C222, D222, E222, F222, G222, A222, B222, C223, D223, E223, F223, G223, A223, B223, C224, D224, E224, F224, G224, A224, B224, C225, D225, E225, F225, G225, A225, B225, C226, D226, E226, F226, G226, A226, B226, C227, D227, E227, F227, G227, A227, B227, C228, D228, E228, F228, G228, A228, B228, C229, D229, E229, F229, G229, A229, B229, C230, D230, E230, F230, G230, A230, B230, C231, D231, E231, F231, G231, A231, B231, C232, D232, E232, F232, G232, A232, B232, C233, D233, E233, F233, G233, A233, B233, C234, D234, E234, F234, G234, A234, B234, C235, D235, E235, F235, G235, A235, B235, C236, D236, E236, F236, G236, A236, B236, C237, D237, E237, F237, G237, A237, B237, C238, D238, E238, F238, G238, A238, B238, C239, D239, E239, F239, G239, A239, B239, C240, D240, E240, F240, G240, A240, B240, C241, D241, E241, F241, G241, A241, B241, C242, D242, E242, F242, G242, A242, B242, C243, D243, E243, F243, G243, A243, B243, C244, D244, E244, F244, G244, A244, B244, C245, D245, E245, F245, G245, A245, B245, C246, D246, E246, F246, G246, A246, B246, C247, D247, E247, F247, G247, A247, B247, C248, D248, E248, F248, G248, A248, B248, C249, D249, E249, F249, G249, A249, B249, C250, D250, E250, F250, G250, A250, B250, C251, D251, E251, F251, G251, A251, B251, C252, D252, E252, F252, G252, A252, B252, C253, D253, E253, F253, G253, A253, B253, C254, D254, E254, F254, G254, A254, B254, C255, D255, E255, F255, G255, A255, B255, C256, D256, E256, F256, G256, A256, B256, C257, D257, E257, F257, G257, A257, B257, C258, D258, E258, F258, G258, A258, B258, C259, D259, E259, F259, G259, A259, B259, C260, D260, E260, F260, G260, A260, B260, C261, D261, E261, F261, G261, A261, B261, C262, D262, E262, F262, G262, A262, B262, C263, D263, E263, F263, G263, A263, B263, C264, D264, E264, F264, G264, A264, B264, C265, D265, E265, F265, G265, A265, B265, C266, D266, E266, F266, G266, A266, B266, C267, D267, E267, F267, G267, A267, B267, C268, D268, E268, F268, G268, A268, B268, C269, D269, E269, F269, G269, A269, B269, C270, D270, E270, F270, G270, A270, B270, C271, D271, E271, F271, G271, A271, B271, C272, D272, E272, F272, G272, A272, B272, C273, D273, E273, F273, G273, A273, B273, C274, D274, E274, F274, G274, A274, B274, C275, D275, E275, F275, G275, A275, B275, C276, D276, E276, F276, G276, A276, B276, C277, D277, E277, F277, G277, A277, B277, C278, D278, E278, F278, G278, A278, B278, C279, D279, E279, F279, G279, A279, B279, C280, D280, E280, F280, G280, A280, B280, C281, D281, E281, F281, G281, A281, B281, C282, D282, E282, F282, G282, A282, B282, C283, D283, E283, F283, G283, A283, B283, C284, D284, E284, F284, G284, A284, B284, C285, D285, E285, F285, G285, A285, B285, C286, D286, E286, F286, G286, A286, B286, C287, D287, E287, F287, G287, A287, B287, C288, D288, E288, F288, G288, A288, B288, C289, D289, E289, F289, G289, A289, B289, C290, D290, E290, F290, G290, A290, B290, C291, D291, E291, F291, G291, A291, B291, C292, D292, E292, F292, G292, A292, B292, C293, D293, E293, F293, G293, A293, B293, C294, D294, E294, F294, G294, A294, B294, C295, D295, E295, F295, G295, A295, B295, C296, D296, E296, F296, G296, A296, B296, C297, D297, E297, F297, G297, A297, B297, C298, D298, E298, F298, G298, A298, B298, C299, D299, E299, F299, G299, A299, B299, C300, D300, E300, F300, G300, A300, B300, C301, D301, E301, F301, G301, A301, B301, C302, D302, E302, F302, G302, A302, B302, C303, D303, E303, F303, G303, A303, B303, C304, D304, E304, F304, G304, A304, B304, C305, D305, E305, F305, G305, A305, B305, C306, D306, E306, F306, G306, A306, B306, C307, D307, E307, F307, G307, A307, B307, C308, D308, E308, F308, G308, A308, B308, C309, D309, E309, F309, G309, A309, B309, C310, D310, E310, F310, G310, A310, B310, C311, D311, E311, F311, G311, A311, B311, C312, D312, E312, F312, G312, A312, B312, C313, D313, E313, F313, G313, A313, B313, C314, D314, E314, F314, G314, A314, B314, C315, D315, E315, F315, G315, A315, B315, C316, D316, E316, F316, G316, A316, B316, C317, D317, E317, F317, G317, A317, B317, C318, D318, E318, F318, G318, A318, B318, C319, D319, E319, F319, G319, A319, B319, C320, D320, E320, F320, G320, A320, B320, C321, D321, E321, F321, G321, A321, B321, C322, D322, E322, F322, G322, A322, B322, C323, D323, E323, F323, G323, A323, B323, C324, D324, E324, F324, G324, A324, B324, C325, D325, E325, F325, G325, A325, B325, C326, D326, E326, F326, G326, A326, B326, C327, D327, E327, F327, G327, A327, B327, C328, D328, E328, F328, G328, A328, B328, C329, D329, E329, F329, G329, A329, B329, C330, D330, E330, F330, G330, A330, B330, C331, D331, E331, F331, G331, A331, B331, C332, D332, E332, F332, G332, A332, B332, C333, D333, E333, F333, G333, A333, B333, C334, D334, E334, F334, G334, A334, B334, C335, D335, E335, F335, G335, A335, B335, C336, D336, E336, F336, G336, A336, B336, C337, D337, E337, F337, G337, A337, B337, C338, D338, E338, F338, G338, A338, B338, C339, D339, E339, F339, G339, A339, B339, C340, D340, E340, F340, G340, A340, B340, C341, D341, E341, F341, G341, A341, B341, C342, D342, E342, F342, G342, A342, B342, C343, D343, E343, F343, G343, A343, B343, C344, D344, E344, F344, G344, A344, B344, C345, D345, E345, F345, G345, A345, B345, C346, D346, E346, F346, G346, A346, B346, C347, D347, E347, F347, G347, A347, B347, C348, D348, E348, F348, G348, A348, B348, C349, D349, E349, F349, G349, A349, B349, C350, D350, E350, F350, G350, A350, B350, C351, D351, E351, F351, G351, A351, B351, C352, D352, E352, F352, G352, A352, B352, C353, D353, E353, F353, G353, A353, B353, C354, D354, E354, F354, G354, A354, B354, C355, D355, E355, F355, G355, A355, B355, C356, D356, E356, F356, G356, A356, B356, C357, D357, E357, F357, G357, A357, B357, C358, D358, E358, F358, G358, A358, B358, C359, D359, E359, F359, G359, A359, B359, C360, D360, E360, F360, G360, A360, B360, C361, D361, E361, F361, G361, A361, B361, C362, D362, E362, F362, G362, A362, B362, C363, D363, E363, F363, G363, A363, B363, C364, D364, E364, F364, G364, A364, B364, C365, D365, E365, F365, G365, A365, B365, C366, D366, E366, F366, G366, A366, B366, C367, D367, E367, F367, G367, A367, B367, C368, D368, E368, F368, G368, A368, B368, C369,

COMING TOGETHER – RETROGRADE ENDING

Example 3: *Coming Together*, mm. 1-2

A $\text{♩} = 80-84$

I THINK¹ ² THE COMBINATION



ff *pp*

Example 5: *Coming Together*, mm. 391-392

391 DIRECTION 392 OF MY LIFE.

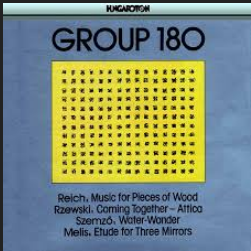


RZEWSKI AND THE MUSIC OF CHANGE

COMING TOGETHER – IMPACT

RZEWSKI AND THE MUSIC OF CHANGE

COMING TOGETHER – IMPACT



RZEWSKI AND THE MUSIC OF CHANGE

THE PEOPLE UNITED – POLITICAL BACKGROUND

THE PEOPLE UNITED – POLITICAL BACKGROUND



Augusto Pinochet (1915 - 2006)

Chilean Dictator (1973 - 1990)

THE PEOPLE UNITED – POLITICAL BACKGROUND



Augusto Pinochet (1915 - 2006)

Chilean Dictator (1973 - 1990)



Inti-illumani (Historico)
(1967 - 2004)

Inti-illumani (Nuevo)
(2004 -)

THE PEOPLE UNITED – POLITICAL BACKGROUND



Ursula Oppens (b. 1944)



THE PEOPLE UNITED – POLITICAL BACKGROUND



Sergio Ortega (1938-2003)



Quilapayún (1965-)

RZEWSKI AND THE MUSIC OF CHANGE

THE PEOPLE UNITED – ANALYSIS – LARGE FORM

THE PEOPLE UNITED – ANALYSIS – LARGE FORM

- ▶ Theme and 36 Variations

THE PEOPLE UNITED – ANALYSIS – LARGE FORM

▶ Theme and 36 Variations

▶ (1) 1 2 3 4 5 6

▶ (2) 1 2 3 4 5 6

▶ (3) 1 2 3 4 5 6

▶ (4) 1 2 3 4 5 6

▶ (5) 1 2 3 4 5 6

▶ (6) 1 2 3 4 5 6

THE PEOPLE UNITED – ANALYSIS – LARGE FORM

▶ Theme and 36 Variations

- ▶ (1) 1 2 3 4 5 6 simple events
- ▶ (2) 1 2 3 4 5 6 rhythm
- ▶ (3) 1 2 3 4 5 6 melodies
- ▶ (4) 1 2 3 4 5 6 counterpoints
- ▶ (5) 1 2 3 4 5 6 harmonies
- ▶ (6) 1 2 3 4 5 6 all of these

THE PEOPLE UNITED – ANALYSIS – LARGE FORM

▶ Theme and 36 Variations		12-bar phrasing
▶ (1) 1 2 3 4 5 <u>6</u>	simple events	3 X 12
▶ (2) 1 2 3 4 5 <u>6</u>	rhythm	2 X 12
▶ (3) 1 2 3 4 5 <u>6</u>	melodies	2 X 12
▶ (4) 1 2 3 4 5 <u>6</u>	counterpoints	2 X 12
▶ (5) 1 2 3 4 5 <u>6</u>	harmonies	Free
▶ <u>(6) 1 2 3 4 5 6</u>	all of these	2 X 12

RZEWSKI AND THE MUSIC OF CHANGE

THE PEOPLE UNITED – ANALYSIS – KEY CENTERS AND SEQUENCES

THE PEOPLE UNITED – ANALYSIS – KEY CENTERS AND SEQUENCES

- ▶ Ascending circle of 5ths progression
 - ▶ Dm - Am - Em ...

THE PEOPLE UNITED – ANALYSIS – KEY CENTERS AND SEQUENCES

- ▶ Ascending circle of 5ths progression
 - ▶ Dm - Am - Em ...
- ▶ Theme is tonal

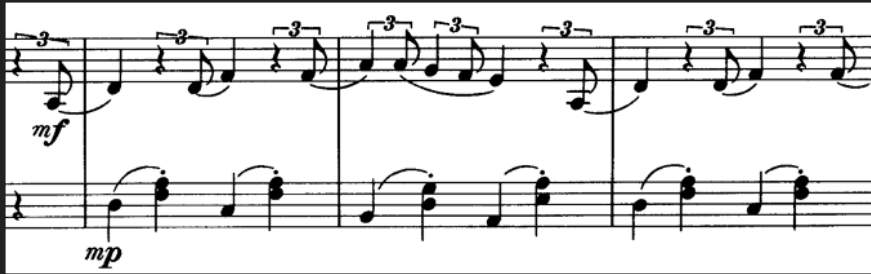
The image displays a musical score for the piece 'The People United' by Henryk Rzewski. The score is written for piano and voice, in 4/4 time, and begins with a forte (*ff*) dynamic. The melody is characterized by an ascending circle of 5ths progression, with notes moving up by perfect fifths (e.g., D to A, A to E, E to B, B to F, F to C, C to G, G to D). The lyrics are in both Spanish and English, reflecting the piece's theme of international solidarity. The Spanish lyrics are '¡El Pueblo unido ja-mas se-ra ven-ci-do!' and the English lyrics are 'The people united will ne-ver be de-feated!'. The score is presented in a clear, black-and-white format with standard musical notation, including treble and bass staves, notes, rests, and lyrics.

RZEWSKI AND THE MUSIC OF CHANGE

THE PEOPLE UNITED – ANALYSIS – KEY CENTERS AND SEQUENCES

THE PEOPLE UNITED – ANALYSIS – KEY CENTERS AND SEQUENCES

► Measures 5-7



THE PEOPLE UNITED – ANALYSIS – KEY CENTERS AND SEQUENCES

► Measures 5-7



► Measures 17-18



THE PEOPLE UNITED – ANALYSIS – KEY CENTERS AND SEQUENCES

► Measures 28-31

A musical score for measures 28-31 of 'The People United' by Rzewski. The score is written for piano, featuring a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The tempo is marked 'crescendo' and the dynamics range from *pp* (pianissimo) to *f* (forte). The music consists of dense, rhythmic patterns, primarily eighth and sixteenth notes, with some rests. The score is divided into four measures, with a repeat sign at the end of the fourth measure. The notation includes various musical symbols such as clefs, key signatures, dynamics, and articulation marks.

RZEWSKI AND THE MUSIC OF CHANGE

THE PEOPLE UNITED – ANALYSIS – ATONAL THINKING IN TONAL FRAMEWORK

THE PEOPLE UNITED – ANALYSIS – ATONAL THINKING IN TONAL FRAMEWORK

► Measures 37-40

Var.1
Weaving : delicate but firm

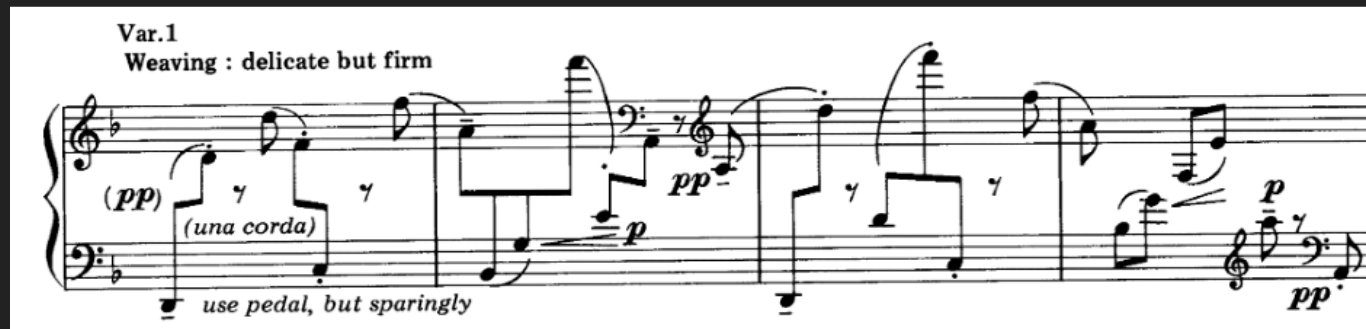
The musical score for measures 37-40 of 'The People United' (Var.1) is presented. The tempo/mood is 'Weaving : delicate but firm'. The score is written for piano, with a treble and bass staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The time signature is 4/4. The score includes the following markings and instructions:

- Measure 37:** Treble staff starts with a half note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, and a half note Bb4. Bass staff starts with a half note F3, followed by a quarter note G3, and a half note A3. Dynamic marking: *(pp)*. Articulation: accents on the first and third notes of both staves. Performance instruction: *(una corda)*.
- Measure 38:** Treble staff starts with a half note A4, followed by a quarter note Bb4, and a half note C5. Bass staff starts with a half note G3, followed by a quarter note A3, and a half note Bb3. Dynamic marking: *pp*. Articulation: accents on the first and third notes of both staves.
- Measure 39:** Treble staff starts with a half note Bb4, followed by a quarter note C5, and a half note D5. Bass staff starts with a half note A3, followed by a quarter note Bb3, and a half note C4. Dynamic marking: *p*. Articulation: accents on the first and third notes of both staves.
- Measure 40:** Treble staff starts with a half note C5, followed by a quarter note Bb4, and a half note A4. Bass staff starts with a half note Bb3, followed by a quarter note A3, and a half note G3. Dynamic marking: *pp*. Articulation: accents on the first and third notes of both staves.

use pedal, but sparingly

THE PEOPLE UNITED – ANALYSIS – ATONAL THINKING IN TONAL FRAMEWORK

► Measures 37-40



► Measure 60



THE PEOPLE UNITED – ANALYSIS – REGULAR PHRASES AND EXCEPTION

► Measures 303-306

Very slow (♩ = ca. 2'')

lunghissima (15–20'')

8

fff tremolo with both hands
accel. - ritard
like an alarm

ff < *fff* > *pppp*
wait for sound
to die to *ppp*
(5–10'')

ppp una corda

rit. *p*

(2^{da}) (2^{da}. sempre)

Detailed description: This is a musical score for measures 303-306. The tempo is marked 'Very slow' with a quarter note equal to approximately 2 seconds. The first measure is marked 'lunghissima (15–20'')' and contains a tremolo with both hands, starting with a fortissimo (fff) dynamic, followed by a crescendo to fortissimo (ff), then a decrescendo through fortissimo (fff) to pianissimo (pppp), described as 'like an alarm'. The second measure is marked 'wait for sound to die to ppp (5–10'')' and contains a sustained fortissimo (ff) chord. The third measure is marked 'ppp una corda' and contains a sustained fortissimo (ff) chord. The fourth measure is marked 'rit. p' and contains a sustained fortissimo (ff) chord. The score is marked with a first ending bracket (2da) and a second ending bracket (2da. sempre).

THE PEOPLE UNITED – ANALYSIS – REGULAR PHRASES AND EXCEPTION

► Measures 303-306

Very slow (♩ = ca. 2'')

lunguissima (15–20'')

tremolo with both hands
accel. - ritard
like an alarm

wait for sound
to die to (5–10'')

ppp una corda

rit. p

(Pia.) (Pia. sempre)

Detailed description: This musical score snippet covers measures 303 to 306. It is written for piano in a key with two flats. Measure 303 begins with a piano (ppp) dynamic and a 'lunguissima' (very long) note, with a performance instruction to play a tremolo with both hands, accelerating then ritardando, 'like an alarm'. Measure 304 contains a 'wait for sound to die to' instruction for 5-10 seconds, followed by a piano (ppp) dynamic and 'una corda' marking. Measure 305 features a 'rit.' (ritardando) marking and a piano (p) dynamic. Measure 306 concludes the phrase. The tempo is marked 'Very slow' with a quarter note equal to approximately 2 seconds. Performance markings include '(Pia.)' and '(Pia. sempre)'.

► Var. 36, 3 measures before the return of the Theme

pp

Cadenza

(optional improvisation; may last anywhere up to 5 minutes or so)

(Pia.)

Detailed description: This musical score snippet shows Variation 36, specifically the three measures preceding the return of the Theme. It is written for piano in a key with two flats. The first measure starts with a piano (pp) dynamic. The second measure contains a 'Cadenza' marking, indicating an optional improvisation that may last up to 5 minutes or so. The third measure concludes the variation. The tempo is marked '(Pia.)'.

RZEWSKI AND THE MUSIC OF CHANGE

THE PEOPLE UNITED – STYLISTIC SHIFT

THE PEOPLE UNITED – STYLISTIC SHIFT

- ▶ Academic Period (1953-1963)
 - ▶ 100% of 24 pieces use fixed instrumentation/traditional notation

THE PEOPLE UNITED – STYLISTIC SHIFT

- ▶ Academic Period (1953-1963)
 - ▶ 100% of 24 pieces use fixed instrumentation/traditional notation
- ▶ Italian-New York Period (1964-1972)
 - ▶ 18/28 pieces (64%) improvisational elements and variable ensembles
 - ▶ Of the others : 6 are for tape, and 4 are traditional

THE PEOPLE UNITED – STYLISTIC SHIFT

- ▶ Academic Period (1953-1963)
 - ▶ 100% of 24 pieces use fixed instrumentation/traditional notation
- ▶ Italian-New York Period (1964-1972)
 - ▶ 18/28 pieces (64%) improvisational elements and variable ensembles
 - ▶ Of the others : 6 are for tape, and 4 are traditional
- ▶ Belgian Period (1973-2021)
 - ▶ 17/130 (13%) works used open instrumentation and/or improvisation

THE PEOPLE UNITED – RZEWSKI'S EXPLANATION FOR STYLISTIC SHIFT

▶ Rzewski:

- ▶ “MEV’s audience at this time consisted mainly of students, and under the influence of the European student movement, the group unavoidably participated in some of its infantile ideological errors. The politicization of the group had both creative and destructive consequences. On the one hand, the exhilarating discovery of new environments: performances in occupied universities and factories; on the other, the confusion and conflicts which arose from the absence of a guiding theory.”

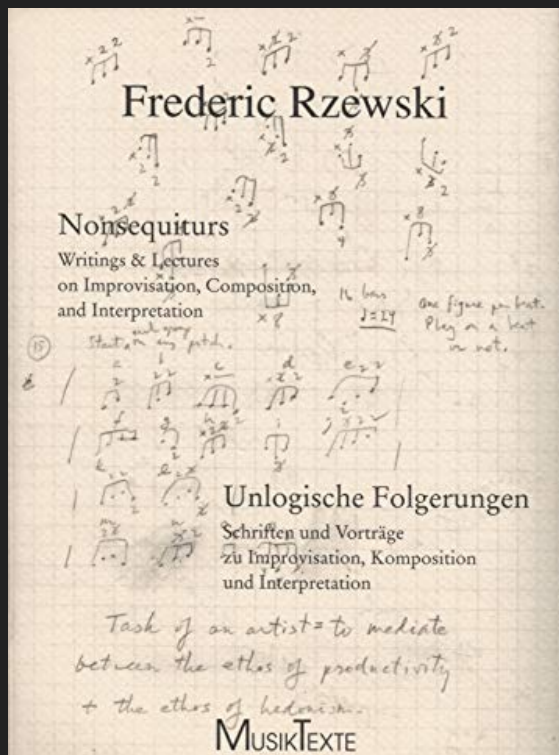
THE PEOPLE UNITED – RZEWSKI'S EXPLANATION FOR STYLISTIC SHIFT

- ▶ Occupy Wall Street (Sept. 15 - Nov. 17, 2011)
- ▶ Zuccotti Park, Financial District, NYC
- ▶ "We Are the 99%"



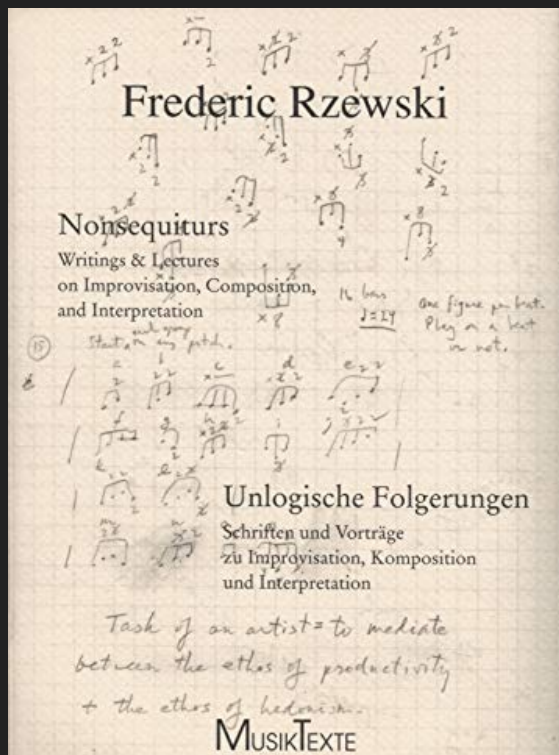
THE PEOPLE UNITED – POLITICS THROUGHOUT

► Nonsequiturs



THE PEOPLE UNITED – POLITICS THROUGHOUT

► Nonsequiturs



Dieter Schnebel:

"For Frederic Rzewski, music and politics always belonged together."

THE PEOPLE UNITED – POLITICS THROUGHOUT

- ▶ Nonsequiturs

- ▶ Rzewski:

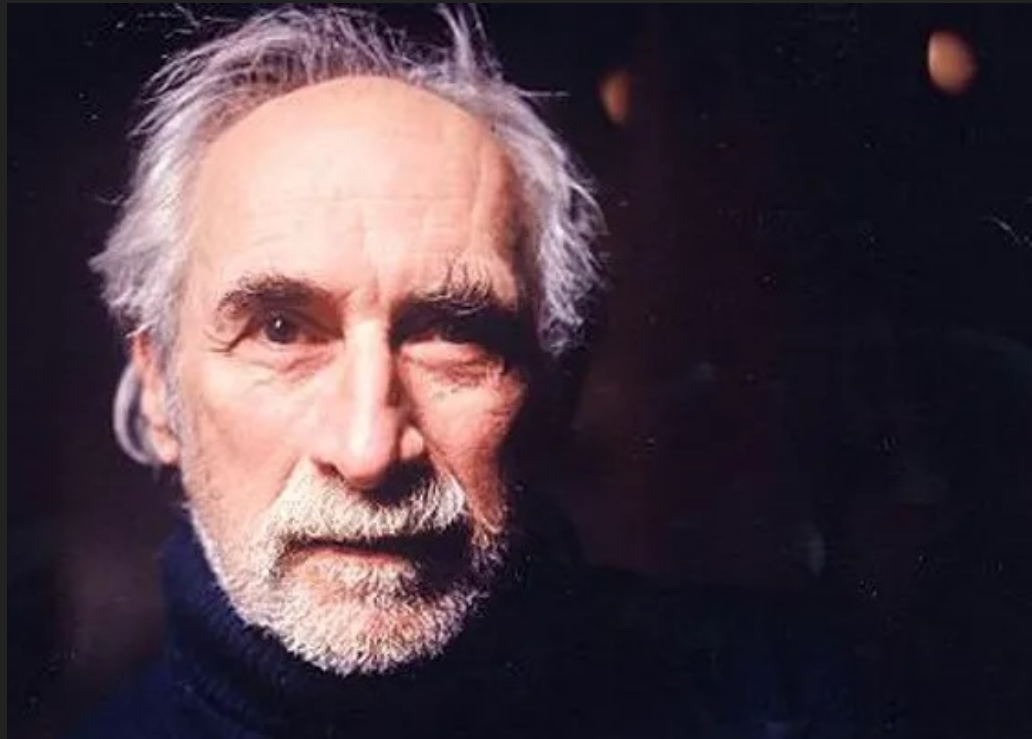
- ▶ “Art and politics are not the same thing. There are points where they converge and points where they diverge. One cannot easily be put into the service of the other without weakening it, depriving it, of some of its inherent force as a vehicle of communication. The politics of the art world tends to be fairly irrelevant to politics in general, whereas the kinds of art which satisfies the political world is often pretty feeble as art. An effective combination of the two, in nonetheless, theoretically possible.”

CONCLUSION – FROM “COMING TOGETHER” TO “PEOPLE UNITED”

CONCLUSION – FROM “COMING TOGETHER” TO “PEOPLE UNITED”

- ▶ Familiar formal constructions
- ▶ Folk songs, hymns, tonal associations
- ▶ Subversion of concert hall conventions
- ▶ Common goal: communication with the People

FREDERIC RZEWSKI AND THE MUSIC OF CHANGE



BIBLIOGRAPHY

- ▶ Asplund, Christian. "Rzewski and Spontaneous Political Music." *Perspectives of New Music* 33 (1995): 418-41.
- ▶ Bloom, Elizabeth. "Rzewski plays Wholey's: The renowned pianist performs his signature composition in the fish emporium." *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*. 2015. Accessed May 10, 2020. <https://www.post-gazette.com/local/city/2015/04/19/Rzewski-plays-Wholey-s-an-epic-piano-piece-for-the-people/stories/201504190175>
- ▶ Carded, Cornelius. "A Note on Frederic Rzewski." *The Musical Times* 117, no. 1595 (1976): 32. doi:10.2307/958921.
- ▶ Deebeezy. "Mos Def The Brooklyn Philharmonic - 'Coming Together' - Restoration Rocks." YouTube. 2011. Accessed April 1, 2014. www.youtube.com/watch?v=1sIOqbWdOyg
- ▶ Driver, Paul. "Recordings: Rzewski: The People United Will Never Be Defeated! by Ursula Oppens." *Tempo*, New Series 136 (1981): 24-27.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- ▶ Gann, Kyle. "Making Marx in the Music: A Hyper History of New Music and Politics." NewMusicBox. 2003. Accessed August 2, 2015. www.newmusicbox.org/articles/making-marx-in-the-music-a-hyperhistory-of-new-music-and-politics
- ▶ Fox, Christopher. "Which Side Are You On?" The Musical Times 144, no. 1882 (2003): 65-68. doi:10.2307/1004713.
- ▶ "Frederic Rzewski - Interview - Extrait De Concert - Vidéo Dailymotion." Dailymotion. Accessed September 30, 2015. www.dailymotion.com/video/xemrri_frederic-rzewski-interview-extrait_music
- ▶ Little, David T. Political Music During and After "The Revolution". PhD diss., Princeton University, 2011. Princeton: UMI Dissertation Publishing, 2011.
- ▶ Lochhead, Judith. Two Determinate Processes of Coming Together. February 2014. Notes, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- ▶ Melville, Sam. "Letters from Attica," William Morrow, New York, 1972.
- ▶ Pollack, Howard. *Harvard Composers: Walter Piston and His Students, from Elliott Carter to Frederic Rzewski*. Metuchen, NJ: Scarecrow Press, 1992.
- ▶ Rzewski, Frederic, Gisela Gronemeyer, and Reinhard Oehlschlägel. *Nonsequiturs: Writings & Lectures on Improvisation, Composition, and Interpretation = Unlogische Folgerungen: Schriften Und Vorträge Zu Improvisation, Komposition Und Interpretation*. Köln: MusikTexte, 2007.
- ▶ Rzewski, Frederic. "Parma Manifesto." *Leonardo Music Journal* 9 (1999): 77-78. doi:10.1162/096112199750316848.
- ▶ Rzewski, Frederic, and Monique Verken. "Musica Elettronica Viva." *The Drama Review: TDR* 14, no. 1 (1969): 92-97. doi:10.2307/1144509urlock, Morgan, writer. "Unions." In *The Inside Man*. CNN. August 2, 2013.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- ▶ Thompson, Heather Anna. "Blood in the Water: The Attica Prison Uprising," Penguin Random House, New York City, 2017.
- ▶ Warnaby, John. "RZEWSKI: Piano Works 1975-1999. Frederic Rzewski (pno). Nonesuch 79623 - 2 (7-CD Set)." TEM Tempo 57, no. 224 (2003): 75-77. doi:10.1017/s0040298203270170.
- ▶ Wason, Robert W. "Tonality and Atonality in Frederic Rzewski's Variations on 'The People United Will Never Be Defeated!'" Perspectives of New Music 26, no. 1 (1988): 108-43. doi:10.2307/833319.
- ▶ Zimmermann, Walter. Desert Plants: Conversations with 23 American Musicians. Vancouver, B.C.: Zimmermann, 1976.

SUNNY KNABLE

RZEWSKI AND THE MUSIC OF CHANGE