

Conscious Sound (2014) for amplified clarinet, piano, violin and cello. Duration 7' 40.

*“If you want to find the secrets of the universe,
think in terms of energy, frequency and vibration.”
– Nikola Tesla*

Conscious Sound was commissioned by Festival Mixtur 2014 in Barcelona and premiered by Ensemble Taller Sonore on April 25, 2014 at the Fabra i Coats.

In *Conscious Sound* each instrument is treated as a pulse generator, in a way that a continuous sound consists of a series of audible but fast pulses. This concept is prominent throughout the piece. To achieve that effect I had to redefine the “default” sound of the instruments. Starting from the violin and cello, certain strings are detuned over an octave lower. The very loose strings allow vibration at a very low frequency acting almost as a pulse generator. The same effect has been achieved for the clarinet using a patent-pending ultra-thin synthetic reed. Finally for the piano I have chosen to use sounds like slow scraping with a plectrum longitudinal to the low register strings. In this case, the spires of the string provided the pulse like effect as the plectrum was moving from one to another.