This portfolio of original compositions is made up of six works, two electroacoustic and four acoustic. Firstly a Piano suite for solo piano, composed of four different short works, exploring different themes and modes based on eight synthetic scales. Cello and cello is a work for two cellos, exploring the sometimes-dual nature of the mind and yourself. Composed in two movements and with the intention of having a slight theatrical aspect to it. The final work in the portfolio is the classical symphony in E minor, written as an exercise to competently write in the style of a traditional classical symphony. The work is in four movements, fast, slow, fast, fast and takes inspiration from Haydn, Prokofiev and Mahler. Date. A portfolio of musical compositions and associated commentary should have a spiral binding. Language of thesis or portfolio Apart from quotations, the thesis or portfolio should be written in English. The Doctoral School Committee may approve the submission of a thesis in a language other than English only in exceptional circumstances. Length and format of thesis or portfolio The maximum word length for a PhD theses is 80,000 words. or an equivalent-scale musical performance of original work, which must be documented on DVD and submitted with the critical commentary. The written component [associated commentary] must be between 8000 and 10,000 words in length, Thurley, Oliver William Marshall (2016) Portfolio of original compositions with written commentary. PhD thesis, University of Leeds. Preview. This project documents the development of my recent compositional practice, a selection of which is presented in the accompanying portfolio. Through this commentary, the work is discussed in relation to a central theme: the figure of musical fragility, and its significance to my recent practice and surrounding musical thinking. Fragility is presented as a nebulous aesthetic concept, and a lens through which to examine elements of instability, vulnerability and tension between limits as they occur in various forms throughout my music.