

# PLAGUE WATER

*for Ensemble Nikel*

Josiah Wolf Oberholtzer (1984)

♩ = 64  
2/4 1

2/8

2/4

baritone  
saxophone

electric  
guitar

piano

4 wood  
shakers

5 wood  
blocks

3 bass  
drums

The musical score is written for a 6-piece ensemble. The tempo is 64 beats per minute, and the time signature is 2/4. The score is divided into three measures, each with a different time signature: 2/4, 2/8, and 2/4. The first measure is marked with a box containing the number 1. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings (sfz, mp, p, f). The piano part includes a section labeled 'COLOR ONE' and a section labeled 'L.V.'. The wood shakers and wood blocks parts include specific rhythmic patterns and dynamic markings. The bass drums part includes a section labeled 'L.V.'. The score is written for a baritone saxophone, electric guitar, piano, 4 wood shakers, 5 wood blocks, and 3 bass drums.

10

[illegible]

baritone  
saxophoneelectric  
guitar

piano

wood  
shakerswood  
blocksbass  
drums

COLOR THREE

L.V.

baritone  
saxophoneelectric  
guitar

piano

wood  
shakerswood  
blocksbass  
drums

L.V.

L.V.

baritone  
saxophoneelectric  
guitar

piano

wood  
shakerswood  
blocksbass  
drums

Measure 21: Baritone saxophone (mf), Electric guitar (p), Piano (p), Wood blocks (mp), Bass drums (mp). Measure 22: Baritone saxophone (mf), Electric guitar (p), Piano (p), Wood blocks (mp), Bass drums (p). Time signature: 4/4.

baritone  
saxophoneelectric  
guitar

piano

wood  
shakerswood  
blocksbass  
drums

Measure 23: Baritone saxophone (mf), Electric guitar (p), Piano (p), Wood blocks (mp), Bass drums (mp). Measure 24: Baritone saxophone (mf), Electric guitar (p), Piano (p), Wood blocks (mp), Bass drums (p). Time signature: 2/8, 2/4, 2/8, 4/4.

$\frac{2}{8}$  $\frac{4}{4}$  $\frac{2}{8}$  $\frac{2}{4}$ baritone  
saxophoneelectric  
guitar

piano

wood  
shakerswood  
blocksbass  
drums

$sfz$   $ff$   $6:5$   $mf$   $sfz$   $5:3$   
 $p$   
 $mp$   $3:2$   $f$   $3:2$   $mp$   $mp$   $3:2$   $8:7$   $f$   
 $\text{♩} = 72$

 $\frac{4}{4}$ 

3B

 $\frac{2}{8}$  $\frac{4}{4}$ baritone  
saxophoneelectric  
guitar

piano

wood  
shakerswood  
blocksbass  
drums

$sfz$   $4:3$   $3:2$   $ff$   $16:11$   $mf$   
**COLOR THREE**  $p$   $8:5$   
 $p$   $8:5$   $sfz$   $4:3$   
 $mp$   $8:5$   $sfz$   $mp$   $4:3$   
 $\text{♩} = 72$

2

4

2

baritone  
saxophoneelectric  
guitar

piano

L.V.

wood  
shakerswood  
blocksbass  
drums

2

4

baritone  
saxophoneelectric  
guitar

piano

wood  
shakerswood  
blocksbass  
drums

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

12:7

*f*

*air*

(sempre *ppp*)

COLOR FOUR

8va-----

8va-----

8va-----

8va-----

6:5

3:2

(sempre *ppp*)

(sempre *ppp*)

(sempre *ppp*)

5:4

STYROFOAM

(sempre *ppp*)

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

*air*

8va-----

8va-----

8va-----

6:5

6:5

3:2

4:3

*p*

4:3

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums



7

8

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

8

3/16

7

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

♩ = 80

 $\frac{3}{4}$  5baritone  
saxophoneelectric  
guitar

piano

wood  
shakerswood  
blocksbass  
drums

51-58

baritone saxophone: 3.2, 3.2, 5.4, 5.3, mp, f

electric guitar: 3.2, 3.2, 4.3, 4.3, mp, f

piano: 3.2, p

wood shakers: 3.2, p

wood blocks: 3.2, p

bass drums: 3.2, p

air

COLOR TWO

baritone  
saxophoneelectric  
guitar

piano

wood  
shakerswood  
blocksbass  
drums

62-68

baritone saxophone: 6.5, mp

electric guitar: 5.4, mp, 5.4, mp

piano: p, 6.5, p, Sub

wood shakers: 8.5, p

wood blocks: 4.3, p, 3.2, p

bass drums: p

Sub

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

mp 6.5 3.2 f

mp 3.2 ff

mp 6.5 3.2 f

p 3.2

p 8.5

p 8.5

p 6.5

mp 4.3 pp

p 3.2 pp 8.5

♩ = 112

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

COLOR FIVE

fff

$\text{♩} = 48$   
 $\frac{5}{16}$  7

7  
 $\frac{7}{16}$

2  
 $\frac{2}{4}$

3  
 $\frac{3}{4}$

baritone  
saxophone

*p* 3.2 *pp*

COLOR SIX

electric  
guitar

*ppp* *p*

piano

15ma *pp* 3.2 *ppp* 15ma *pp* 3.2  
 8va *p* 8va *pp* 3.2

wood  
shakers

*ppp* *pp* L.V.

wood  
blocks

bass  
drums

STYROFOAM *mp* 6.5 *fp* 8.5 *mp* 4.3 *f* 6.5

$\text{♩} = 80$

$\frac{5}{16}$

$\frac{3}{4}$  8

$\frac{6}{16}$

$\frac{3}{8}$

baritone  
saxophone

*ppp* *mp* *f* 5.3 *mp* 6.5

electric  
guitar

COLOR TWO *pp* 4.3 3.2 *mp* *f* 5.3 *mp* 6.5

piano

15ma *p* 3.2 *p* 3.2  
 8va *ppp* 3.2 *p* 8va *p* 8va

wood  
shakers

*p* 3.2 *p* 4.3

wood  
blocks

bass  
drums

*p* 3.2 *p* 8.5

$\frac{3}{4}$  $\frac{3}{8}$  $\frac{6}{8}$  $\frac{3}{8}$ baritone  
saxophoneelectric  
guitar

piano

wood  
shakerswood  
blocksbass  
drums

 $\frac{3}{4}$ 
 $\text{♩} = 64$   
 $\frac{2}{4}$  9
 $\frac{2}{8}$ baritone  
saxophoneelectric  
guitar

piano

wood  
shakerswood  
blocksbass  
drums

2/4

2/8

3/16

5/16 10A

7/16

baritone  
saxophoneelectric  
guitar

piano

wood  
shakerswood  
blocksbass  
drums

COLOR SIX

STYROFOAM

2/4

3/4

baritone  
saxophoneelectric  
guitar

piano

wood  
shakerswood  
blocksbass  
drums

mp

8:5

mp

mp

f

mp

3:2

104

The musical score is arranged in a multi-stem format. The instruments and their parts are as follows:

- baritone saxophone:** Features two melodic phrases, each marked with a piano (*p*) dynamic.
- electric guitar:** Plays two chords, each marked with a pianissimo (*ppp*) dynamic.
- piano:** The right hand plays a melody with a 15ma (15th major) interval, marked with a piano (*pp*) dynamic. The left hand plays a bass line with an 8va (8th octave) interval, also marked with a piano (*p*) dynamic.
- wood shakers:** Play a rhythmic pattern marked with a pianissimo (*ppp*) dynamic.
- wood blocks:** Play a rhythmic pattern marked with a pianissimo (*ppp*) dynamic.
- bass drums:** Play a rhythmic pattern marked with a piano (*p*) dynamic.

The score includes several performance instructions and dynamic markings:

- Dynamic markings:** *ppp* (pianissimo), *p* (piano), *f* (forte), and *mp* (mezzo-piano).
- Performance instructions:** "COLOR SIX" and "STYROFOAM".
- Interval markings:** 15ma, 8va, 4:3, and 3:2.
- Other markings:** L.V. (Lento Vivace), and a 10:9 interval marking.

$\frac{3}{4}$  $\frac{2}{4}$  $\frac{5}{16}$ baritone  
saxophoneelectric  
guitar

piano

wood  
shakerswood  
blocksbass  
drums $\text{♩} = 48$  $\frac{2}{4}$ 

10D

 $\frac{4}{8}$  $\frac{2}{4}$ baritone  
saxophoneelectric  
guitar

piano

wood  
shakerswood  
blocksbass  
drums

COLOR SIX

STYROFOAM



121

[illegible]

*baritone  
saxophone*

electric  
guitar

*piano*

*wood  
shakers*

wood  
blocks

*bass  
drums*

baritone  
saxophone

*electric  
guitar*

*wood  
shakers*

wood  
blocks

*bass  
drums*

♩ = 72

baritone  
saxophoneelectric  
guitar

piano

wood  
shakerswood  
blocksbass  
drums

144

145

146

147

148

baritone  
saxophoneelectric  
guitar

piano

wood  
shakerswood  
blocksbass  
drums

149

150

151

152

153

$\text{♩} = 80$

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

8:5

ff

mp

5:4

f

5:3

mp

COLOR TWO

4:3

4:3

f

mp

5:4

3:2

p

3:2

p

4:3

p

3:2

p

3:2

p

3:2

p

3:2

p

5:4

mp

f

sfz

3/4

3/8

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

mp 6.5

mp 3.2 f

mp 6.5 f

p 3.2 Sub...1

pp 3.2 p

p 8.5

p 4.3 mp

p 3.2 Sub...1

3/4

♩ = 96

3/8 1/4

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

mp 6.5 f

mp 5.4

air 3.2 3.2 3.2 3.2

(sempre ppp)

COLOR FOUR

8va...1 8va...1

(sempre ppp)

(sempre ppp)

Sub...1 p Sub...1

(sempre ppp)

(sempre ppp)

8.7 p 6.5

STYROFOAM

(sempre ppp)

5

6

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

7

3/16

7

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

4

7

3

baritone  
saxophoneelectric  
guitar

piano

wood  
shakerswood  
blocksbass  
drums

8

7

baritone  
saxophoneelectric  
guitar

piano

wood  
shakerswood  
blocksbass  
drums



4  
83  
167  
85  
8baritone  
saxophoneelectric  
guitar

piano

wood  
shakerswood  
blocksbass  
drums3  
167  
85  
8baritone  
saxophoneelectric  
guitar

piano

wood  
shakerswood  
blocksbass  
drums



515

[illegible]

7  
162  
45  
16

♩ = 64

2  
4 16baritone  
saxophoneelectric  
guitar

piano

wood  
shakerswood  
blocksbass  
drums

COLOR ONE

2  
82  
42  
8baritone  
saxophoneelectric  
guitar

piano

wood  
shakerswood  
blocksbass  
drums

Measure 196: 7/16 time. Baritone saxophone (pp), electric guitar (p), piano (ppp, 15ma, 3:2), wood shakers (pp, 3:2), wood blocks, bass drums (mp, 3:2).

Measure 197: 2/4 time. Baritone saxophone (ppp), electric guitar (pp, 4:3), piano (p, 15ma, 3:2), wood shakers (p, 3:2), wood blocks, bass drums (f, 3:2).

Measure 198: 5/16 time. Baritone saxophone (p, 3:2), electric guitar (pp), piano (p, 15ma, 3:2), wood shakers (p, 3:2), wood blocks, bass drums (mp, 6:5).

Measure 199: 2/4 time. Baritone saxophone (p, 3:2), electric guitar (pp), piano (p, 15ma, 3:2), wood shakers (p, 3:2), wood blocks, bass drums (f, 4:3).

Measure 200: 16/16 time. Baritone saxophone (f, 3:2), electric guitar (f, 3:2), piano (f, 5:3, 8va), wood shakers (mp, 5:4), wood blocks, bass drums (mp, 5:4).

Measure 201: 2/8 time. Baritone saxophone (f, 3:2), electric guitar (f, 5:4), piano (f, 5:4), wood shakers (mp, 3:2), wood blocks, bass drums (mp, 4:3).

Measure 202: 2/4 time. Baritone saxophone (f, 3:2), electric guitar (f, 3:2), piano (f, 5:3, L.V.), wood shakers (mp, 3:2), wood blocks, bass drums (f, 3:2).

Measure 203: 2/8 time. Baritone saxophone (f, 3:2), electric guitar (f, 3:2), piano (f, 5:3, L.V.), wood shakers (p, 3:2), wood blocks, bass drums (f, 3:2).

$\frac{3}{16}$  $\text{♩} = 96$  $\frac{7}{8}$ 

17A

 $\frac{3}{16}$  $\frac{5}{8}$ baritone  
saxophone

*f* *air* *(sempre ppp)* *4:3* *4:3* *4:3*

electric  
guitar

*f* *(sempre ppp)* *COLOR FOUR* *8va-----* *3:2* *3:2*

piano

*(sempre ppp)* *p* *(sempre ppp)*

wood  
shakers

*(sempre ppp)* *4:3*

wood  
blocks

*(sempre ppp)* *4:3*

bass  
drums

*STYROFOAM* *(sempre ppp)*

 $\frac{7}{8}$  $\frac{3}{16}$ baritone  
saxophone

*air* *3:2* *3:2*

electric  
guitar

*8va-----* *3:2* *3:2* *8va-----* *8va-----* *8va-----*

piano

*p*

wood  
shakers
wood  
blocks
bass  
drums

7

2

3

16

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

3

3

4

7

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

3

6

3  
16

7

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

3

4

3  
16

7

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

baritone saxophone

air

3:2

8:5

(sempre *ppp*)

electric guitar

8va

COLOR FOUR

(sempre *ppp*)

3:2

4:3

piano

(sempre *ppp*)

(sempre *ppp*)

wood shakers

(sempre *ppp*)

4:3

wood blocks

(sempre *ppp*)

STYROFOAM

bass drums

(sempre *ppp*)

baritone saxophone

air

3:2

3:2

3:2

3:2

3:2

electric guitar

8va

3:2

3:2

3:2

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

3:2

bass drums

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

3.2 3.2 3.2

Sua

3.2 4.3

p

6.5

3.2

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

4.3 4.3 4.3

Sua

3.2 4.3 3.2 3.2

p

3.2



baritone  
saxophone

electric  
guitar

piano

wood  
shakers

wood  
blocks

bass  
drums

3.2

4.3

air

Jamaica Plain  
December 2013 - February 2014