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# PLAGUE WATER

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*A quartet for*  
Baritone saxophone,  
Electric guitar,  
Piano, and  
Untuned percussion

*Composed by*  
JOSIAH WOLF OBERHOLTZER

2014

*A water against the plague...*

From Volodimir Pavliuchuk's *Cordial Waters*:

No.1 Plague Water *(1671, England)*

- 150 gm scabious (*Scabiosa sp.*)
- 150 gm pimpernel (*Anagallis arvensis*)
- 150 gm tormentil root (*Potentilla erecta*)
- 4 litres 5% malt extract wash  
*(strong beer as in the original)*

Macerate for 12 hours and then distil.  
The recommended does is a spoonful every 4 hours.

No.2 Plague Water *(1677, England)*

- 100 gm rue
- 100 gm rosemary
- 100 gm sage
- 100 gm sorrel
- 100 gm celandine (*Chelidonium majus*)  
*(The leaves contain small amounts of toxic alkaloids which can be reduced greatly by drying the plant)*
- 100 gm mugwort (*Artemisia vulgaris*)
- 100 gm bramble (blackberry) tops
- 100 gm pimpernel (*Anagallis arvensis*)
- 100 gm dragons (*Dracunculus vulgaris.*)
- 100 gm agrimony (*Agrimonia eupatoria*)
- 100 gm lemonbalm
- 100 gm angelica leaves
- 4 litres white wine  
*(substitute a 15% ABV sugar wash)*

Macerate for 5 days and then distil.

*for Ensemble Nickel*

Josiah Wolf Oberholtzer (1984)

# I

2

**2**  
**4** ♩ = 64

2

48

24

2

**3**  
**4** ♩ = 72

*saxophone*

*e-guitar*

*pic*

*shakers*

*drums*

⑧

9  
16

34

68

3

*saxophone*

*e-guitar*

*pic*

*shakers*

*drums*

3A

(13)

$\frac{1}{4}$  ♩ = 80

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{1}{4}$

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{1}{4}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

(22)

$\frac{5}{8}$

$\frac{1}{4}$

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{1}{4}$

$\frac{2}{4}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

(31)

$\frac{1}{4}$

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{1}{4}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

3B

(39)

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{1}{4}$

$\frac{5}{8}$

$\frac{1}{4}$

$\frac{1}{4}$

♩ = 80

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

(48)

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{1}{4}$

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{1}{4}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

(58)

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{1}{4}$

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{1}{4}$

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{2}{4}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

(67)

 $\frac{1}{4}$  $\frac{3}{16}$  $\frac{2}{4}$  $\frac{3}{16}$  ♩ = 96 $\frac{7}{8}$ 

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

(75)

 $\frac{3}{16}$  $\frac{7}{8}$  $\frac{3}{16}$  $\frac{5}{8}$ 

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

(81)

 $\frac{7}{8}$  $\frac{3}{16}$  $\frac{7}{16}$  $\frac{5}{8}$  $\frac{7}{8}$ 

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

The musical score for 'The Sound of Silence' by Simon & Garfunkel is presented in a multi-staff format. The staves are labeled: saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums. The piano part is the most complex, featuring a variety of rhythmic patterns and time signatures. The guitar part is simpler, with a few chords and a single melodic line. The saxophone, shakers, and drums parts are mostly silent, indicated by rests. The score is divided into measures by vertical bar lines. The piano part includes a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth notes, sixteenth notes, and triplets. The guitar part includes a few chords and a single melodic line. The saxophone, shakers, and drums parts are mostly silent, indicated by rests. The score is divided into measures by vertical bar lines. The piano part includes a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth notes, sixteenth notes, and triplets. The guitar part includes a few chords and a single melodic line. The saxophone, shakers, and drums parts are mostly silent, indicated by rests. The score is divided into measures by vertical bar lines.

The musical score for "The Great Unholy Love" by The Residents is presented for five instruments: saxophone, electric guitar, piano, shakers, and drums. The score is divided into measures with various time signatures (90, 3/16, 5/16, 3/8, 7/16) and includes complex rhythmic notation with many beamed notes and rests.

5

97  $\frac{3}{4}$  ♩ = 72  $\frac{9}{16}$   $\frac{3}{4}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

musical score for 'The Sound of Silence' by Simon & Garfunkel. The score is for five instruments: saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums. The tempo is 72 beats per minute. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The score is divided into four measures. The first measure is in 3/4 time, the second and third are in 9/16 time, and the fourth is in 3/4 time. The piano part features a complex rhythmic pattern with various time signatures (5:4, 4:3, 5:4, 3:2, 5:4, 5:3, 5:4, 3:2, 5:4) and a key signature change to two flats (B-flat and E-flat) in the third measure. The saxophone, e-guitar, shakers, and drums parts are mostly silent, with some notes in the first and fourth measures.

101

6

3

6

3 48

7

7 108

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

107

5 16

2 4

7 16

3 4

7 16

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

8

113

5 16

7 16

2 4

3 4 72

9 16

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums



119

3  
4

6  
8

3  
8

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

9

10A

124

2  
4 ♩ = 64

3  
8

4  
8

2  
4

3  
8

6  
8 ♩ = 108

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

131

2  
4

3  
8

2  
4

3  
8

5  
16

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums



10C

152

3/4

7/16

7/16 ♩ = 108

5/16

2/4

7/16

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

158

3/4

7/16

5/16

7/16

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

10D

164

2/4

6/8 ♩ = 108

2/4

6/8

2/4

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

169

8 5/16 2/4 7/16 3/4

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

The musical score is for a piece titled "The Way of the Wind" by John Williams. It is a short, atmospheric piece, likely from the "The Godfather Part II" soundtrack. The score is written for five instruments: saxophone, electric guitar, piano, shakers, and drums. The piano part is the most complex, featuring a series of rhythmic patterns that change throughout the piece. The patterns are marked with various time signatures: 8, 5/16, 2/4, 7/16, and 3/4. The piano part also includes many articulation marks, such as accents, slurs, and breath marks. The saxophone, electric guitar, shakers, and drums parts are mostly rests, indicating they are silent for most of the piece. The overall mood is somber and reflective.

174

6/8

2/4

7/16

5/16

2/4 ♩ = 64

3/8

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

5:4

3:2

3:2

5:4

4:3

5:4

5:4

5:4

5:4

(b)

180

**4/8** **2/4** **2/8** **1/4** **3/16**

**I2A** ♩ = 80

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

5:4 5:3 5:4 5:4 5:3 3:2 5:4 5:4 4:3 5:4 5:4



217

5

8

1

4

2

4

3

16

1

4

2

4

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

226

1

4

2

4

3

16

2

4

1

4

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

235

3

16

2

4

3

16

1

4

5

8

1

4

3

4

♩ = 72

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

242

9  
16

3  
4

6  
8

3  
8

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

14

247

3  
16 ♩ = 96

5  
16

5  
8

7  
8

7  
16

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

253

7  
8

3  
16

7  
16

7  
8

3  
16

7  
16

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

(259)

**$\frac{5}{16}$**

**$\frac{7}{8}$**

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

(263)

**$\frac{3}{16}$**

**$\frac{7}{16}$**

**$\frac{5}{16}$**

**$\frac{7}{16}$**

**$\frac{7}{8}$**

**$\frac{3}{16}$**

**$\frac{7}{16}$**

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

(270)

**$\frac{7}{8}$**

**$\frac{3}{16}$**

**$\frac{7}{16}$**

**$\frac{7}{8}$**

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums



276

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{7}{16}$

$\frac{7}{8}$

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{7}{16}$

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\text{♩} = 108$

musical score for measures 276-282, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums. The piano part includes complex rhythmic patterns with various time signatures and accidentals.

283

$\frac{3}{4}$

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{3}{4}$

musical score for measures 283-286, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums. The piano part continues with complex rhythmic patterns and accidentals.

287

$\frac{7}{16}$

$\frac{5}{16}$

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\text{♩} = 64$

$\frac{3}{8}$

$\frac{4}{8}$

$\frac{2}{4}$

musical score for measures 287-290, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums. The piano part includes complex rhythmic patterns and accidentals.

17A

(294)

8

$\frac{3}{16}$  ♩ = 96

7

$\frac{3}{16}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

(301)

7

$\frac{3}{16}$

8

7

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

(306)

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{7}{16}$

8

7

$\frac{7}{16}$

$\frac{3}{16}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

312

7  
8

3  
16

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

17B

317

5  
16

5  
8

7  
16

3  
16 ♩ = 96

7  
16

5  
8

3  
16

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

325

7  
16

3  
16

7  
16

7  
8

3  
16

7  
8

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

5:4 3:2 5:4 5:4 3:2 5:4 5:4 5:4 3:2 4:3

Jamaica Plain  
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*Scores available from the composer at*  
[www.josiahwolfoberholtzer.com](http://www.josiahwolfoberholtzer.com)

€25 / \$35