PLAGE NATER

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

Composed by
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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.

Baritone Saxophone Cross-shaped noteheads indicate key-clicks.

Electric Guitar The electric guitar should be treated with 6 different colors, via effects pedal(s). The color to be used is indicated at the beginning of each section of the score. Pedal colors may include any combination of distortion, reverb or short delay (less than a quarter second). A volume pedal should be placed last in the effect chain, to control overall dynamic.

Piano Cross-shaped noteheads indicate glissandi on the tops of the keys, without depressing the keys, played with the flesh of the fingers, or fingernails. A flat or natural sign above the glissandi determines whether to play on the black or white keys.

Percussion Instrumentation is somewhat up to the discretion of the performer, but should obey the following guidelines:

- 4 wooden shakers, bamboo wind-chimes, maracas, rainsticks, cabasa, etc. These can include metallic timbres (for example, if a cabasa is used), but should be primarily wood. The order of the shakers is not important. Instruments with a longer decay, and a granular sound quality, like rainsticks and bamboo windchimes are preferred.
- 5 wood blocks, arranged from lowest to highest. The exact pitch is not important. These could also be temple blocks. The sound quality should be very dry.
- 3 large drums, including at least one proper bass drum, arranged from lowest to highest.

Performance implements consist of hard mallets (for the wood blocks), and soft mallets, super-balls, stiff paint-brushes and styrofoam blocks for the bass drums. The wooden shakers may be played with the hand, or excited with mallets, as convenient.

PLAGIE WATER

for Ensemble Nikel

Josiah Wolf Oberholtzer (1984)























































































