
PLAGUE WATER

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.

PLAGUE WATER

for Ensemble Nikel

Josiah Wolf Oberholtzer (1984)

I

$\frac{2}{4}$ ♩ = 64

$\frac{2}{8}$

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{2}{8}$

$\frac{3}{16}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

2

⑨

$\frac{3}{8}$ ♩ = 72

$\frac{6}{8}$

$\frac{9}{16}$

$\frac{3}{8}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

3A

(14)

$\frac{9}{8}$

$\frac{2}{8}$ ♩ = 80

$\frac{4}{4}$

$\frac{3}{8}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

(18)

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{3}{8}$

$\frac{4}{16}$

$\frac{4}{4}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

(24)

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{3}{8}$

$\frac{4}{4}$

$\frac{3}{8}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

30

$\frac{4}{16}$ $\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{4}{16}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{4}{16}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

3B

36

$\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ ♩ = 60 $\frac{3}{8}$ $\frac{2}{4}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

40

$\frac{3}{8}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{2}{4}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

4

(44)

$\frac{4}{4}$

$\frac{5}{8}$ ♩ = 96

$\frac{5}{16}$

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{7}{16}$

$\frac{5}{16}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

(50)

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{11}{16}$

$\frac{5}{16}$

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{11}{16}$

$\frac{5}{16}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

(57)

$\frac{11}{16}$

$\frac{7}{8}$

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{11}{16}$

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{5}{16}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

63

$\frac{3}{16}$ $\frac{5}{8}$ $\frac{7}{8}$ $\frac{3}{16}$ $\frac{11}{16}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

5

70

$\frac{3}{16}$ $\frac{11}{16}$ $\frac{7}{8}$ $\frac{3}{8}$ ♩ = 72 $\frac{6}{8}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

6

75

$\frac{9}{16}$ $\frac{3}{8}$ $\frac{9}{8}$ $\frac{3}{8}$ ♩ = 48

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

7

(80)

$\frac{5}{8}$ ♩ = 108

$\frac{5}{16}$

$\frac{3}{8}$

$\frac{5}{16}$

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{3}{8}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

8

(86)

$\frac{5}{16}$

$\frac{3}{8}$

$\frac{5}{16}$

$\frac{3}{8}$ ♩ = 72

$\frac{6}{8}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

9

(93)

$\frac{9}{16}$

$\frac{3}{8}$

$\frac{9}{8}$

$\frac{2}{4}$ ♩ = 64

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

10A

(98)

$\frac{2}{8}$

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{2}{8}$

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{5}{8}$

$\text{♩} = 108$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

(106)

$\frac{5}{16}$

$\frac{5}{8}$

$\frac{5}{16}$

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{5}{8}$

$\frac{5}{16}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

(112)

$\frac{5}{8}$

$\frac{5}{16}$

$\frac{5}{8}$

$\frac{7}{16}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

10B

118

5
8

5
16

5
8

♩ = 108

5
16

5
8

5
16

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

124

2
4

5
8

5
16

5
8

5
16

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

10C

131

6
8

7
16

5
8

♩ = 108

5
16

5
8

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

136

5/16

2/4

5/8

5/16

5/8

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

10D

142

5/16

5/8

5/16

5/8

5/16

2/4

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

149

5/8

5/16

5/8

5/16

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

155

6

7
16

8

5
16

II

2
4

♩ = 64

8

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

12A

161

3
16

2
4

8

3
16

2
8

♩ = 80

4
4

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

169

8

4
4

2
4

8

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

174

48

44

24

38

24

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

12B

179

38

416

44

416

24

38

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

185

44

38

24

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

13

190

2

3

♩ = 72

8

9

16

3

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

14

196

8

5

♩ = 96

5

16

3

16

7

16

5

16

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

202

3

16

11

16

5

16

3

16

11

16

5

16

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

(209)

$\frac{11}{16}$ **$\frac{7}{8}$** **$\frac{3}{16}$** **$\frac{11}{16}$** **$\frac{3}{16}$** **$\frac{5}{16}$**

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

(215)

$\frac{3}{16}$ **$\frac{5}{8}$** **$\frac{7}{8}$** **$\frac{3}{16}$** **$\frac{11}{16}$**

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

(222)

$\frac{3}{16}$ **$\frac{11}{16}$** **$\frac{7}{8}$** **$\frac{7}{16}$** **$\frac{5}{16}$**

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

227

14
16

5
16

3
16

5
8

7
8

3
16

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

15

233

5
8 ♩ = 108

5
16

5
8

5
16

2
4

5
8

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

16

239

5
16

2
4 ♩ = 64

2
8

3
16

2
4

2
8

3
16

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

17A

(249)

$\frac{5}{8}$ ♩ = 96

$\frac{7}{16}$

$\frac{5}{16}$

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{7}{16}$

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{5}{16}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

(257)

$\frac{7}{8}$

$\frac{7}{16}$

$\frac{5}{16}$

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{7}{8}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

(263)

$\frac{5}{8}$

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{5}{8}$

$\frac{11}{16}$

$\frac{7}{8}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

268

5
8

7
8

7
16

3
16

5
16

musical score for saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums, measures 268-273. The score shows complex rhythmic patterns with various note values and rests across five staves.

17B

274

5
8

3
16 ♩ = 96

7
8

5
16

3
16

5
16

musical score for saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums, measures 274-281. The score continues with complex rhythmic patterns and rests across five staves.

282

7
16

3
16

7
8

3
16

7
8

musical score for saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums, measures 282-287. The score continues with complex rhythmic patterns and rests across five staves.

5
16

5
8

3
16

7
16

5
8

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

Jamaica Plain
December 2013 - February 2014

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Scores available from the composer at
www.josiahwolfoberholtzer.com

€25 / \$35