
PLAGUE WATER

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

Composed by
JOSIAH WOLF OBERHOLTZER

2014

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 dose 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 Bartok-pizzicato indications above noteheads indicate slap tongues.

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, caxixi etc. These could include metal timbres, but should be primarily wood. The order of the shakers is not important. Instruments with a longer decay, and a more granular sound quality, such as 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.

Percussion should be performed with bare hands. Wooden rings may be worn to increase the overall dynamic, especially on the wood blocks. Styrofoam blocks should be placed on the bass drums, to be used during the rehearsal marks indicated in the score (4, 14, 17a, 17b). Grace notes should always be played with the hands.

for Ensemble Nickel

Josiah Wolf Oberholtzer (1984)

[illegible]

13

3A

2/4 ♩ = 72

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

mp

f

ff

mf

p

pp

4:3

3:2

3:2

4:3

5:3

4:3

3:2

4:3

3:2

4:3

12:11

8:5

COLOR THREE

L.V.

This musical score is for the song "The Sound of Silence" by Simon & Garfunkel. It is arranged for a baritone saxophone, electric guitar, piano, wood shakers, wood blocks, and bass drums. The score is divided into two systems, each with a 2/4 time signature. The first system includes a 4:3 ratio for the baritone saxophone and a 3:2 ratio for the electric guitar. The second system includes a 3:2 ratio for the baritone saxophone and a 4:3 ratio for the electric guitar. The piano part features a 3:2 ratio for the right hand and a 4:3 ratio for the left hand. The wood shakers and wood blocks parts are marked with "L.V." (Lento Vivace). The bass drums part includes a 12:7 ratio for the first system and a 3:2 ratio for the second system. The score is written in a key of D major and a 2/4 time signature.

24

2/4 3/8 4/4 2/8 4/4 3/8

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

3:2 3:2 8:5

sfz ff

p

3:2 3:2 3:2

p

6:5

mf

p

3:2

mp

f

20:11

mp f

3:2 3:2

mp

3:2

mp

3B

30 $\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ $\text{♩} = 72$ $\frac{2}{8}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{2}{8}$

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

5:3

COLOR THREE

sfz

4:3

3:2

ff

16:11

mf

8:5

p

8va-----

p

3:2

8va-----

p

3:2

L.V.

8:7

f

mp

8:5

fp

mp

4:3

mp

3:2

mp

36 $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{2}{8}$ $\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

sfz

3:2

8va-----

p

3:2

sfz

8:7

sfz

4:3

sfz

3:2

p

6:5

sfz

mp

3:2

mp

4:3

5:3

f

3:2

mp

mp

mp

mp

fp

This musical score is for the song "The Sound of Silence" by Simon & Garfunkel. It is arranged for a baritone saxophone, electric guitar, piano, wood shakers, wood blocks, and bass drums. The score is in 3/4 time and consists of 47 measures. The baritone saxophone part features a melodic line with a "6:5" interval marked. The electric guitar part includes a "3:2" interval marked. The piano part features a "3:2" interval marked. The wood shakers and wood blocks parts feature a "3:2" interval marked. The bass drums part features a "3:2" interval marked. The score is written in a single system with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a common time signature of 3/4.

51

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

3/16 7/8 8/8

air

8:5

6:5

3:2

8va

fp

p

fp

6:5

This musical score is for the instrumental track "The Sound of Silence" by Simon & Garfunkel. It is arranged for a six-piece ensemble. The score is divided into three measures, each with a time signature of 3/16. The instruments and their parts are as follows:

- Baritone Saxophone:** Plays a melodic line with notes G4, A4, B4, and C5. It includes a "3:2" ratio marking under the first measure and a "4:3" ratio marking under the second measure. A "3:2" ratio marking is also present under the third measure.
- Electric Guitar:** Plays a melodic line with notes G4, A4, B4, and C5. It includes a "3:2" ratio marking under the first measure and a "4:3" ratio marking under the second measure. A "3:2" ratio marking is also present under the third measure.
- Piano:** Provides harmonic support with chords and single notes. It includes a "3:2" ratio marking under the first measure and a "4:3" ratio marking under the second measure. A "3:2" ratio marking is also present under the third measure.
- Wood Shakers:** Play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. It includes a "5:4" ratio marking under the first measure.
- Wood Blocks:** Play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. It includes a "3:2" ratio marking under the first measure.
- Bass Drums:** Play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. It includes a "3:2" ratio marking under the first measure.

The score is written in standard musical notation with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The tempo is marked "Moderato". The score is divided into three measures, each with a time signature of 3/16. The instruments and their parts are as follows:

- Baritone Saxophone:** Plays a melodic line with notes G4, A4, B4, and C5. It includes a "3:2" ratio marking under the first measure and a "4:3" ratio marking under the second measure. A "3:2" ratio marking is also present under the third measure.
- Electric Guitar:** Plays a melodic line with notes G4, A4, B4, and C5. It includes a "3:2" ratio marking under the first measure and a "4:3" ratio marking under the second measure. A "3:2" ratio marking is also present under the third measure.
- Piano:** Provides harmonic support with chords and single notes. It includes a "3:2" ratio marking under the first measure and a "4:3" ratio marking under the second measure. A "3:2" ratio marking is also present under the third measure.
- Wood Shakers:** Play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. It includes a "5:4" ratio marking under the first measure.
- Wood Blocks:** Play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. It includes a "3:2" ratio marking under the first measure.
- Bass Drums:** Play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. It includes a "3:2" ratio marking under the first measure.

[illegible]

67

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

6

3/4

3/8 ♩ = 112

mp

3:2

sfz

COLOR FIVE

mp

6:5

3:2

f

p

3:2

p

8:5

Sub

p

6:5

pp

3:2

8:5

fff

8

9

The musical score for "The Great Wall of China" by John Williams is presented in a multi-staff format. The instruments and their parts are as follows:

- Baritone Saxophone:** Features a melodic line with dynamic markings such as *sfz*, *f*, and *p*. It includes a section labeled "COLOR SIX" and a 3:2 ratio.
- Electric Guitar:** Provides a rhythmic accompaniment with dynamic markings like *sfz* and *f*. It includes a section labeled "COLOR ONE" and a 3:2 ratio.
- Piano:** The piano part is written for both hands, featuring complex rhythmic patterns and dynamic markings like *sfz* and *f*. It includes a section labeled "L.V." and a 5:3 ratio.
- Wood Shakers:** Provide a steady rhythmic accompaniment with dynamic markings like *mp* and *p*. It includes a section labeled "L.V." and a 3:2 ratio.
- Wood Blocks:** Provide a steady rhythmic accompaniment with dynamic markings like *mp* and *p*. It includes a section labeled "L.V." and a 3:2 ratio.
- Bass Drums:** Provide a steady rhythmic accompaniment with dynamic markings like *mp* and *f*. It includes a section labeled "L.V." and a 4:3 ratio.

The score is written in 2/4 time and includes various dynamic markings and ratios throughout. The final section of the score is labeled "STYROFOAM" and includes a 6:5 ratio.

baritone
saxophone

electric
guitar

piano

wood
shakers

wood
blocks

bass
drums

pp

ppp

p

p

pp

p

pp

ppp

ppp

p

ppp

p

pp

pp

ppp

pp

ppp

p

p

pp

pp

p

ppp

ppp

pp

mp

8:5

mp

mp

f

mp

3:2

f

12:7

fp

mp

mp

4:3

mp

COLOR SIX

STYROFOAM

12

baritone
saxophone

electric
guitar

piano

wood
shakers

wood
blocks

bass
drums

ppp

3:2

COLOR SIX

p

3:2

3:2

pp

ppp

4:3

pp

15ma-----

8va-----

pp

ppp

15ma-----

p

p

15ma-----

ppp

pp

15ma-----

p

ppp

8va-----

p

pp

4:3

ppp

4:3

p

L.V.

ppp

pp

3:2

p

3:2

8:7

f

mp

3:2

f

mp

4:3

mp

mp

3:2

STYROFOAM

[illegible]

baritone
saxophone

Baritone saxophone staff. The staff contains musical notation with various dynamics and articulations. Dynamics include *sfz*, *f*, and *p*. Articulations include accents and slurs. There are also wavy lines above the staff indicating vibrato or tremolo. The staff is divided into measures by bar lines.

electric
guitar

Electric guitar staff. The staff contains musical notation with various dynamics and articulations. Dynamics include *sfz*, *f*, and *p*. Articulations include accents and slurs. There are also wavy lines above the staff indicating vibrato or tremolo. The staff is divided into measures by bar lines.

piano

Piano staff. The staff contains musical notation with various dynamics and articulations. Dynamics include *sfz*, *f*, and *p*. Articulations include accents and slurs. There are also wavy lines above the staff indicating vibrato or tremolo. The staff is divided into measures by bar lines.

wood
shakers

Wood shakers staff. The staff contains musical notation with various dynamics and articulations. Dynamics include *mp* and *p*. Articulations include accents and slurs. There are also wavy lines above the staff indicating vibrato or tremolo. The staff is divided into measures by bar lines.

wood
blocks

Wood blocks staff. The staff contains musical notation with various dynamics and articulations. Dynamics include *mp* and *p*. Articulations include accents and slurs. There are also wavy lines above the staff indicating vibrato or tremolo. The staff is divided into measures by bar lines.

bass
drums

Bass drums staff. The staff contains musical notation with various dynamics and articulations. Dynamics include *mp* and *f*. Articulations include accents and slurs. There are also wavy lines above the staff indicating vibrato or tremolo. The staff is divided into measures by bar lines.

2/8 4/4 3/8 2/4 3/8 2/4 3/8

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

L.V.

6:5 4:3

sfz

p

3:2

p

3:2

mp

4:3

mp

6:5

f

mp

sfz

ff

mf

sfz

p

3:2

pp

p

3:2

mp

4:3

3:2

f

mp

3:2

17

144

2/8 2/4 4/4 2/8 2/4 2/8

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

sfz *sfz* *ff* *p* *pp* *p* *p* *mp* *f* *mp*

3:2 4:3 3:2 4:3 3:2 4:3 12:11 3:2 6:5 3:2

L.V. L.V.

152

2/4 2/8 4/16 4/4 2/8 2/4 2/8

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

sfz *ff* *sfz* *sfz* *ff* *p* *p* *mp* *f* *mp* *sfz*

3:2 8:7 4:3 5:4 8:5 3:2 3:2 16:11 3:2 3:2 3:2

L.V. L.V. L.V. L.V.

baritone
saxophoneelectric
guitar

piano

wood
shakerswood
blocksbass
drums

COLOR TWO

baritone saxophone

mp *f* 6:5 *mp* *air* (sempre *ppp*)

electric guitar

mp *f* *mp* 5:4 (sempre *ppp*)

piano

(sempre *ppp*)

wood shakers

p (sempre *ppp*)

wood blocks

pp 8:7 *p* 6:5 (sempre *ppp*)

bass drums

(sempre *ppp*)

COLOR FOUR

STYROFOAM

baritone saxophone

air (sempre *ppp*)

electric guitar

Sua 3:2 (sempre *ppp*)

piano

(sempre *ppp*)

wood shakers

6:5 (sempre *ppp*)

wood blocks

7:6 (sempre *ppp*)

bass drums

(sempre *ppp*)

177

4 8 3 8 7

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

8va

air

8:5

3:2

6:5

3:2

4:3

3:2

5:4

182

4 3/16 7 5 3/16 7

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

8va

air

3:2

4:3

8va

3:2

3:2

4:3

4:3

5:4

7:6

15

STYROFOAM

[illegible]

213

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

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

air

8va

3:2

8:5

6:5

3:2

3:2

3:2

3:2

220

7/8 3/8 6/8 3/16 7/8 3/8

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

air

8va

4:3

8:5

3:2

3:2

3:2

3:2

3:2

7:6

[illegible][illegible]

Jamaica Plain
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Scores available from the composer at
www.josiahwolfoberholtzer.com

€25 / \$35