
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.

for Ensemble Nickel

Josiah Wolf Oberholtzer (1984)

⑨

3A

14 6 9 2 4

16 4 = 80 4

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

18 2 3 2

4 8 4

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

23 4 2 8

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

(27)

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

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

3B

(32)

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

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

(38)

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

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

43

4
16

11
16 ♩ = 96

5
8

7
8

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

48

5
8

3
16

7
16

11
16

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

54

7
16

5
8

7
8

3
16

11
16

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

60

7/16

3/16

7/8

3/16

5/16

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

5

66

11/16

3/16

5/16

6/8

♩ = 72

3/4

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

71

9/16

3/8

9/16

6/16

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

6

7

77

3

8

♩

= 48

2

4

♩

= 108

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

8

83

6

8

2

4

5

16

2

4

6

8

♩

= 72

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

88

3

8

6

8

9

16

3

4

3

8

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

6

9

(93)

$\frac{6}{16}$

$\frac{2}{4}$ ♩ = 64

$\frac{3}{8}$

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{3}{8}$

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{3}{8}$

musical score for measures 93-100, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums.

10A

(101)

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{2}{4}$ ♩ = 108

$\frac{5}{16}$

$\frac{7}{16}$

$\frac{3}{4}$

musical score for measures 101-107, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums.

(108)

$\frac{6}{8}$

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{5}{16}$

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{6}{8}$

musical score for measures 108-114, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums.

113

5
16

7
16

10B

2
4 ♩ = 108

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

119

5
16

7
16

3
4

8

2
4

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

10C

124

5
16

2
4

8

2
4 ♩ = 108

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

129

5/16 7/16 3/4 6/8

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

10D

134

2/4 5/16 2/4 2/4 ♪ = 108 5/16 7/16

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

141

3/4 6/8 2/4 5/16 2/4

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

146

8

5
16

7
16

2
4

♩ = 64

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

12A

152

2
8

2
4

2
8

3
16

2
8

3
16

4
4

♩ = 80

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

160

2
4

4
4

2
8

4
4

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

164

musical score for measures 164-168, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums. The score includes a key signature change to B-flat major and a tempo marking of 40 bpm. The time signature changes from 2/8 to 2/4 and back to 2/8.

164 2/8 2/4 2/8 4/4

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

12B

169

musical score for measures 169-174, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums. The score includes a key signature change to B-flat major and a tempo marking of 40 bpm. The time signature changes from 4/8 to 2/8 and back to 4/8.

169 4/8 2/8 4/8 2/4 2/8 4/4

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

175

musical score for measures 175-180, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums. The score includes a key signature change to B-flat major and a tempo marking of 40 bpm. The time signature changes from 2/8 to 2/4 and back to 2/8.

175 2/8 2/4 2/8 2/4 2/8 2/4

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

I3

182

$\frac{9}{16}$ ♩ = 72

$\frac{3}{8}$

$\frac{6}{16}$

$\frac{3}{4}$

$\frac{3}{8}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

I4

188

$\frac{6}{16}$

$\frac{3}{4}$

$\frac{11}{16}$ ♩ = 96

$\frac{5}{8}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

193

$\frac{7}{8}$

$\frac{5}{8}$

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{7}{16}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

198

11/16 7/16 5/8

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

203

7/8 3/16 11/16 7/16 3/16

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

210

7/8 3/16 5/16 11/16 7/8

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

215

3/16

5/8

3/16

7/8

3/16

7/8

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

I5

221

7/16

2/4 ♩ = 108

5/16

7/16

3/4

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

I6

227

6/8

2/4

5/16

2/4 ♩ = 64

3/8

2/4

3/8

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

17A

(234)

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{2}{8}$

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{11}{16}$ ♩ = 96

$\frac{7}{16}$

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{5}{8}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

(242)

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{5}{16}$

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{11}{16}$

$\frac{5}{16}$

$\frac{11}{16}$

$\frac{3}{16}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

(250)

$\frac{7}{16}$

$\frac{5}{8}$

$\frac{11}{16}$

$\frac{5}{16}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

(256)

5
8

3
16

7
8

3
16

7
8

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

17B

(261)

11
16

7
8

5
8

3
16

11
16

♩ = 96

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

(266)

7
16

3
16

5
8

3
16

7
8

3
16

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

(273)

11
16

3
16

7
16

7
8

3
16

5
16

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

(280)

5
8

3
16

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