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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**  
**4** ♩ = 64

28

24

316

24

2

3  
16

*saxophone*

*e-guitar*

*pia*

*shakers*

*drums*

2

⑧

**3**  
**4** ♩ = 72

6  
16

34

6  
16

34

*saxophone*

*e-guitar*

*pia*

*shakers*

*drums*

# 3A

(13)

3/8

2/4

♩ = 80

4/4

3/8

2/4

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

3:2

8:7

4:3

5:3

10:9

(19)

3/8

2/4

3/8

2/4

4/4

3/8

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

3:2

3:2

3:2

12:7

16:9

5:4

5:4

3:2

6:5

4:3

5:3

(25)

4/4

3/8

2/4

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

16:9

12:7

4:3

4:3

5:4

5:4

4:3

16:9

3:2

4:3

5:4

8:7

(31)

$\frac{4}{4}$

musical score for measures 31-34, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and bar lines. Time signatures  $\frac{2}{8}$  and  $\frac{2}{4}$  are indicated above the saxophone staff. Rhythmic markings like 12:11, 12:7, 6:5, 8:7, and 3:2 are present below the staves.

3B

(35)

$\frac{2}{4}$  ♩ = 60

$\frac{2}{8}$

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{2}{8}$

$\frac{4}{4}$

$\frac{2}{8}$

musical score for measures 35-38, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and bar lines. Time signatures  $\frac{2}{8}$  and  $\frac{4}{4}$  are indicated above the saxophone staff. Rhythmic markings like 3:2, 8:7, 24:13, 5:4, 8:5, and 3:2 are present below the staves.

(41)

$\frac{4}{4}$

$\frac{2}{8}$

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{2}{8}$

$\frac{4}{16}$

musical score for measures 41-44, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and bar lines. Time signatures  $\frac{4}{4}$  and  $\frac{4}{16}$  are indicated above the saxophone staff. Rhythmic markings like 5:4, 8:5, 4:3, 3:2, 12:7, 4:3, 4:3, 6:5, 4:3, 3:2, and 3:2 are present below the staves.

(48)

$\frac{7}{8}$  ♩ = 96

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{7}{16}$

$\frac{7}{8}$

$\frac{3}{16}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

(54)

$\frac{11}{16}$

$\frac{7}{16}$

$\frac{11}{16}$

$\frac{7}{16}$

$\frac{3}{8}$

$\frac{3}{16}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

(60)

$\frac{7}{16}$

$\frac{11}{16}$

$\frac{7}{16}$

$\frac{3}{8}$

$\frac{5}{16}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

(66)

7  
8

3  
16

7  
8

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

5

(70)

3  
16

7  
8

6  
8 ♩ = 72

9  
16

6  
16

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

6

(75)

3  
4

6  
8

6  
16

3  
8

3  
8 ♩ = 48

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

7

(81) 6/8 ♩ = 108

2/4

5/16

6/8

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

8

(86) 2/4 7/16 2/4 7/16 5/16 6/8 ♩ = 72

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

(92) 6/16 6/8 9/16 3/4

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums



9

(97)

$\frac{6}{16}$

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\text{♩} = 64$

$\frac{3}{8}$

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{3}{8}$

$\frac{3}{16}$

musical score for measures 97-104, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums. The score includes various rhythmic notations and time signatures.

10A

(105)

$\frac{6}{8}$

$\text{♩} = 108$

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{5}{16}$

$\frac{6}{8}$

musical score for measures 105-109, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums. The score includes various rhythmic notations and time signatures.

(110)

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{7}{16}$

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{7}{16}$

$\frac{2}{4}$

musical score for measures 110-114, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums. The score includes various rhythmic notations and time signatures.

# 10B

116

7/16

5/8

5/16

6/8 ♩ = 108

2/4

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

121

5/16

6/8

2/4

7/16

2/4

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

# 10C

127

7/16

2/4

7/16

6/8 ♩ = 108

2/4

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

133

5  
16

6

2  
4

7  
16

2  
4

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

10D

139

7  
16

5  
16

6  
8

♩ = 108

2  
4

5  
16

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

145

6  
8

2  
4

7  
16

2  
4

7  
16

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

150

II

2/4

7/16

8/8

5/16

2/4

♩ = 64

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

156

I2A

8/8

2/4

3/16

2/4

8/8

3/16

4/4

♩ = 80

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

163

2/4

8/8

2/4

8/8

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

169

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

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

8:5

5:4

3:2

3:2

16:9

10:7

4:3

12:7

5:3

12B

175

**4/16** **4/8** **3/8** **2/4** ♩ = 40 **3/8** **2/4** **3/8**

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

4:3

3:2

8:7

5:4

4:3

3:2

5:4

3:2

4:3

182

**4/4** **2/4** **4/4** **2/4**

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

3:2

3:2

16:11

3:2

8:5

6:5

8:5

5:4

13

186

$\frac{2}{8}$

$\frac{9}{16}$  ♩ = 72

$\frac{3}{8}$

$\frac{9}{16}$

$\frac{3}{4}$

musical score for measures 186-191, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and time signatures.

14

192

$\frac{3}{8}$

$\frac{9}{16}$

$\frac{3}{8}$

$\frac{7}{8}$  ♩ = 96

$\frac{3}{16}$

musical score for measures 192-197, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and time signatures.

198

$\frac{7}{16}$

$\frac{7}{8}$

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{11}{16}$

$\frac{7}{16}$

musical score for measures 198-203, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and time signatures.

204

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

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

210

7/16 5/8 5/16 7/8

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

215

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

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

220

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{7}{8}$

$\frac{3}{16}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

I5

225

$\frac{7}{8}$

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{6}{8}$  ♩ = 108

$\frac{2}{4}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

I6

231

$\frac{5}{16}$

$\frac{6}{8}$

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{7}{16}$

$\frac{5}{16}$

$\frac{2}{4}$  ♩ = 64

$\frac{3}{8}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums



## 17A

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

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

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

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

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

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

264

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

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

271

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

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

17B

277

7/8 ♩ = 96 3/16 7/8 3/16 5/8

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

283

78

316

716

78

316

716

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

289

78

316

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

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

€25 / \$35