
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 Nickel

Josiah Wolf Oberholtzer (1984)

[illegible]

2

7

3

16

3

4

♩ = 80

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

3A

11

3

4

6

8

2

4

♩ = 72

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

15

4/4

3:2

4:3

5:3

2/4

4:3

2/8

3:2

2/4

4:3

baritone saxophone

ff

mf

sfz

sfz

sfz

sfz

electric guitar

p

pp

4:3

piano

p

8va

p

wood shakers

wood blocks

12:11

mp

mp

mp

mp

mp

12:7

20

4/4

sfz

sfz

sfz

electric guitar

p

3:2

p

piano

p

wood shakers

wood blocks

mp

3:2

mp

bass drums

f

6:5

sfp

mp

3:2

16:9

f

mp

4:3

p

23 $\frac{2}{8}$ $\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{2}{8}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{2}{8}$

baritone saxophone *sfz* 3:2 3:2 8:5 *sfz* *ff*

electric guitar *p* 3:2 *p* 3:2 *p*

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks *mp* 3:2 *mp* 3:2 *f*

bass drums *mp* 20:11 *f* *mp* 3:2

3B

28 $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{2}{8}$ $\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ ♩ = 72

baritone saxophone *mf* 6:5 *sfz* 5:3 *sfz* 4:3

electric guitar *p* 8:5 *p*

piano *p* 8va

wood shakers

wood blocks *mp* 3:2 8:7 *mp* 8:5

bass drums *f* 3:2 *mp* 3:2 *f* *mp* 8:5 *sfz*

Rd. ——— L.V.

(f2)

2/4

4

7/16 ♩ = 96

3/16

7/16

7/8

baritone
saxophone

electric
guitar

piano

wood
shakers

wood
blocks

bass
drums

12:7

f

3:2

3:2

3:2

3:2

KEYS

8va

PEGS

8va

PEGS

PEGS

KEYS

8va

3:2

8va

48

3
16

7
16

7
8

5
16

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

PEGS

KEYS

8va

8vb

3:2

4:3

52

7
8

3
2

8
5

4
3

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

PEGS

KEYS

8va

8vb

3:2

4:3

8:5

55

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

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

KEYS

PEGS

8va

8vb

3:2

8:5

3:2

3:2

8:5

3:2

8:7

3:2

8:5

61

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

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

KEYS

PEGS

8va

8vb

3:2

4:3

4:3

3:2

3:2

4:3

4:3

8:7

6:5

4:3

baritone
saxophone

electric
guitar

piano

wood
shakers

wood
blocks

bass
drums

PEGS

KEYS

PEGS

8va

8va

8vb

8vb

p

p

p

baritone
saxophone

electric
guitar

piano

wood
shakers

wood
blocks

bass
drums

The musical score is written for a six-piece ensemble. The notation includes various time signatures and dynamic markings. The baritone saxophone part features a melodic line with a 6:5 interval. The electric guitar part includes a 5:4 interval and a 6:5 interval. The piano part has a 6:5 interval. The wood shakers part has an 8:5 interval. The wood blocks part has a 4:3 interval. The bass drums part has a 3:2 interval. The score is divided into measures with various time signatures (6/16, 8/8, 3/4, 3/8, 9/16) and includes dynamic markings (mp, p, f, pp) and intervallic annotations (5:4, 6:5, 8:5, 4:3, 3:2).

74

baritone
saxophone

electric
guitar

piano

wood
shakers

wood
blocks

bass
drums

$\frac{3}{4}$

6

$\frac{3}{8}$

$\text{♩} = 112$

3:2

6:5

3:2

3:2

8:5

6:5

3:2

8:5

8vb-----i

8vb-----i

mp

fp

mp

f

p

p

p

p

p

p

p

7

$\frac{2}{4}$ ♩ = 48

79

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

8

84

$\frac{3}{4}$

$\frac{5}{16}$

$\frac{3}{4}$

♩ = 80

$\frac{6}{16}$

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

[illegible]

(92)

$\frac{3}{8}$

$\frac{3}{4}$

9

$\frac{2}{4}$ ♩ = 64

baritone
saxophone

electric
guitar

piano

wood
shakers

wood
blocks

bass
drums

The musical score for measures 92-95 is written for a six-piece ensemble. Measure 92 is in 3/8 time, measure 93 is in 3/4 time, and measures 94-95 are in 2/4 time. The tempo is marked as ♩ = 64. The instruments and their parts are as follows:

- Baritone Saxophone:** Measures 92-93 are silent. In measure 94, it plays a half note G2 with a mezzo-forte (mp) dynamic. In measure 95, it plays a half note G2 with a sforzando (sfz) dynamic.
- Electric Guitar:** Measures 92-93 are silent. In measure 94, it plays a half note G2 with a mezzo-forte (mp) dynamic. In measure 95, it plays a half note G2 with a sforzando (sfz) dynamic.
- Piano:** Measures 92-93 are silent. In measure 94, it plays a half note G2 with a piano (p) dynamic. In measure 95, it plays a half note G2 with a piano (p) dynamic.
- Wood Shakers:** Measures 92-93 are silent. In measure 94, it plays a half note G2 with a mezzo-forte (mp) dynamic. In measure 95, it plays a half note G2 with a mezzo-forte (mp) dynamic.
- Wood Blocks:** Measures 92-93 are silent. In measure 94, it plays a half note G2 with a piano (p) dynamic. In measure 95, it plays a half note G2 with a piano (p) dynamic.
- Bass Drums:** Measures 92-93 are silent. In measure 94, it plays a half note G2 with a mezzo-forte (mp) dynamic. In measure 95, it plays a half note G2 with a mezzo-forte (mp) dynamic.

[illegible]

103

$\frac{3}{4}$

$\frac{5}{16}$

$\frac{7}{16}$

$\frac{5}{16}$

$\frac{2}{4}$ ♩ = 48

10B

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

108

$\frac{3}{4}$

$\frac{5}{16}$

$\frac{7}{16}$

$\frac{5}{16}$

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

113

ioC

2/4

♩ = 48

3/4

5/16

2/4

♩ = 48

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

118

ioD

3/4

5/16

7/16

5/16

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

baritone
saxophone

electric
guitar

piano

wood
shakers

wood
blocks

bass
drums

$\frac{3}{8}$

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{3}{8}$

$\frac{3}{16}$

The musical score is divided into two systems. The first system is in 2/4 time, and the second system is in 3/8 time. The key signature changes from one flat to two flats between the systems. The instruments and their parts are as follows:

- Baritone Saxophone:** Features a melodic line with accents and slurs, including triplet markings (3:2) and dynamic markings like *sfz* and *f*.
- Electric Guitar:** Provides harmonic support with chords and single notes, including triplet markings (3:2) and dynamic markings like *sfz* and *f*.
- Piano:** Features a complex melodic line with many triplets (5:3, 5:4) and dynamic markings like *sfz* and *f*. It includes a section marked "L.V." (Left Violin).
- Wood Shakers:** Provides a steady rhythmic accompaniment with a melodic line, including dynamic markings like *mp* and *f*.
- Wood Blocks:** Provides a steady rhythmic accompaniment with a melodic line, including dynamic markings like *mp* and *f*.
- Bass Drums:** Provides a steady rhythmic accompaniment with a melodic line, including dynamic markings like *mp* and *f*.

I2A

130

$\frac{4}{4}$ ♩ = 72

$\frac{3}{8}$

$\frac{4}{4}$

$\frac{3}{8}$

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

sfz

p

p

p

sfz

f

p

p

mp

mp

mp

f

mp

4:3

3:2

3:2

8va

L.V.

L.V.

6:5

4:3

134

$\frac{4}{4}$

$\frac{3}{8}$

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{3}{8}$

$\frac{2}{4}$

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

sfz

p

p

ff

mf

p

p

mp

f

mp

sfz

mp

mp

mp

mp

6:5

4:3

3:2

4:3

3:2

L.V.

L.V.

6:5

4:3

3:2

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

sfz

pp

p

p

f

mp

f

p

mp

sfz

ff

p

mp

sfz

mp

12:7

3:2

3:2

3:2

4:3

4:3

12:7

L.V.

L.V.

baritone
saxophone

electric
guitar

piano

wood
shakers

wood
blocks

bass
drums

8va-----

p

3:2

L.V.

-----L.V.

p

-----L.V.

mp

mp

mp

mp

f

fp

6:5

f

8:5

p

4:3

p

3:2

3:2

6:5

baritone
saxophoneelectric
guitar

piano

wood
shakerswood
blocksbass
drums

The musical score is divided into four measures, each with a different time signature: 3/4, 3/8, 3/4, and 3/4. The instruments and their parts are as follows:

- baritone saxophone:** Measures 1 and 2 are in 3/4 time. Measure 1 has a melody starting on G4, moving to A4, B4, and C5, with a 5:4 ratio indicated. Measure 2 has a melody starting on D5, moving to E5, F5, and G5, with a 5:3 ratio indicated. Measures 3 and 4 are in 3/8 time. Measure 3 has a melody starting on A5, moving to B5, C6, and D6, with a 5:4 ratio indicated. Measure 4 has a melody starting on E6, moving to F6, G6, and A6, with a 6:5 ratio indicated.
- electric guitar:** Measures 1 and 2 are in 3/4 time. Measure 1 has a melody starting on G4, moving to A4, B4, and C5, with a 4:3 ratio indicated. Measure 2 has a melody starting on D5, moving to E5, F5, and G5, with a 4:3 ratio indicated. Measures 3 and 4 are in 3/8 time. Measure 3 has a melody starting on A5, moving to B5, C6, and D6, with a 5:4 ratio indicated. Measure 4 has a melody starting on E6, moving to F6, G6, and A6, with a 3:2 ratio indicated.
- piano:** Measures 1 and 2 are in 3/4 time. Measure 1 has a melody starting on G4, moving to A4, B4, and C5, with a 3:2 ratio indicated. Measure 2 has a melody starting on D5, moving to E5, F5, and G5, with a 3:2 ratio indicated. Measures 3 and 4 are in 3/8 time. Measure 3 has a melody starting on A5, moving to B5, C6, and D6, with a 4:3 ratio indicated. Measure 4 has a melody starting on E6, moving to F6, G6, and A6, with a 3:2 ratio indicated.
- wood shakers:** Measures 1 and 2 are in 3/4 time. Measure 1 has a melody starting on G4, moving to A4, B4, and C5, with a 3:2 ratio indicated. Measure 2 has a melody starting on D5, moving to E5, F5, and G5, with a 3:2 ratio indicated. Measures 3 and 4 are in 3/8 time. Measure 3 has a melody starting on A5, moving to B5, C6, and D6, with a 3:2 ratio indicated. Measure 4 has a melody starting on E6, moving to F6, G6, and A6, with a 3:2 ratio indicated.
- wood blocks:** Measures 1 and 2 are in 3/4 time. Measure 1 has a melody starting on G4, moving to A4, B4, and C5, with a 3:2 ratio indicated. Measure 2 has a melody starting on D5, moving to E5, F5, and G5, with a 3:2 ratio indicated. Measures 3 and 4 are in 3/8 time. Measure 3 has a melody starting on A5, moving to B5, C6, and D6, with a 3:2 ratio indicated. Measure 4 has a melody starting on E6, moving to F6, G6, and A6, with a 4:3 ratio indicated.
- bass drums:** Measures 1 and 2 are in 3/4 time. Measure 1 has a melody starting on G4, moving to A4, B4, and C5, with a 3:2 ratio indicated. Measure 2 has a melody starting on D5, moving to E5, F5, and G5, with a 3:2 ratio indicated. Measures 3 and 4 are in 3/8 time. Measure 3 has a melody starting on A5, moving to B5, C6, and D6, with a 3:2 ratio indicated. Measure 4 has a melody starting on E6, moving to F6, G6, and A6, with a 4:3 ratio indicated.

Dynamics include *mp* (mezzo-piano), *f* (forte), and *p* (piano). The score also includes a key signature change from G major to E minor (indicated by a key signature change symbol) and a tempo marking of ♩ = 80.

168

3/8 3/4

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

mp f mp f mp

6:5 3:2 6:5 5:4

pp p p Sub p Sub

172

7/8 ♩ = 96

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

KEYS PEGS PEGS KEYS PEGS

8va Sub 8va Sub 8va Sub

3:2 4:3 3:2 3:2 4:3 6:5

175

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

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

KEYS

PEGS

8va

8vb

3:2

4:3

6:5

179

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

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

PEGS

KEYS

8va

8vb

3:2

4:3

185

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

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

PEGS

KEYS

8va

8vb

8:5

3:2

4:3

8:7

6:5

189

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

3:2 4:3 4:3 6:5

8va 8vb

PEGS KEYS

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

The musical score for "The Sound of Silence" by Simon & Garfunkel is presented for a full band arrangement. The score is divided into six staves, each representing a different instrument: baritone saxophone, electric guitar, piano, wood shakers, wood blocks, and bass drums. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor), and the time signature is 4/4. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings like "8va" and "8vb". The piano part features a prominent bass line with a "3:2" ratio, while the wood shakers and wood blocks provide a steady, rhythmic accompaniment. The electric guitar and baritone saxophone play a melodic line that is a variation of the original song's melody. The bass drums provide a simple, steady beat. The score is marked with "193" in the top left corner, indicating the page number.

The musical score for "The Sound of Silence" is presented in a multi-staff format. The instruments and their parts are as follows:

- baritone saxophone:** Features a melodic line with notes and rests, including a 3:2 ratio marking.
- electric guitar:** Provides a rhythmic accompaniment with chords and single notes, marked with a 3:2 ratio.
- piano:** Includes both treble and bass staves. The treble staff has a melodic line with a "KEYS" marking and an 8va dynamic. The bass staff has a rhythmic line with an 8vb dynamic. A "PEGS" marking is also present.
- wood shakers:** Provide a steady rhythmic accompaniment with a 3:2 ratio marking.
- wood blocks:** Provide a steady rhythmic accompaniment with a 3:2 ratio marking.
- bass drums:** Provide a steady rhythmic accompaniment with a 3:2 ratio marking.

The score includes various musical notations such as rests, notes, and dynamic markings like "8va" and "8vb". The tempo is marked as 196, and the time signature is 3/16. The score is divided into measures by vertical bar lines, and the instruments are grouped by horizontal lines.

baritone
saxophoneelectric
guitar

piano

wood
shakerswood
blocksbass
drums

4:3

PEGS

KEYS

KEYS

8va

8va

8va

8va

8va

8va

3:2

4:3

3:2

[illegible]

214

17A

$\frac{7}{8}$ ♩ = 96

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{7}{16}$

$\frac{5}{16}$

baritone
saxophone

electric
guitar

piano

wood
shakers

wood
blocks

bass
drums

220

$\frac{7}{8}$

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{5}{16}$

$\frac{7}{16}$

$\frac{11}{16}$

baritone
saxophone

electric
guitar

piano

wood
shakers

wood
blocks

bass
drums

225

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

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

PEGS

KEYS

8va

8vb

3:2

4:3

6:5

3:2

3:2

3:2

3:2

4:3

231

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

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

PEGS

KEYS

8va

8vb

3:2

8:5

3:2

4:3

3:2

3:2

3:2

234

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

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

PEGS

KEYS

8va

8sub

3:2

4:3

8:7

4:3

8:5

4:3

3:2

3:2

3:2

3:2

3:2

239

7/16 3/16 5/16 7/8 ♩ = 96 3/16

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

PEGS

KEYS

8va

8sub

3:2

4:3

8:5

4:3

3:2

4:3

3:2

4:3

3:2

246

11

16

7

16

8

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

250

3

16

5

16

11

16

7

16

baritone saxophone

electric guitar

piano

wood shakers

wood blocks

bass drums

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

€25 / \$35