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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 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.

# PLAGUE WATER

*for Ensemble Nike*

Josiah Wolf Oberholtzer (1984)

[illegible]

2

9

3

8

♩ = 80

3

4

6

16

3

4

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

woodblocks

drums

3A

13

8

♩ = 72

6

16

9

16

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

woodblocks

drums

18

2  
4

2  
8

4  
16

4  
4

2  
4

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

woodblocks

drums

*Sva- 1*

*Sva- 1*

*Sva- 1*

*Sva- 1*

*Sva- 1*

*ppp*

*sfp*

*ff*

*f*

*p*

*ppp*

*sfp*

*ff*

*f*

*p*

*Red.*

*L.V.*

*Red.*

*L.V.*

*Red.*

*L.V.*

*Red.*

*L.V.*

*Red.*

*L.V.*

23

4  
4

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

woodblocks

drums

*ppp*

*sfp*

*ff*

*f*

*p*

*ppp*

*sfp*

*Red.*

*L.V.*

*Red.*

*L.V.*

*Red.*

*L.V.*

*Red.*

*L.V.*

26

2/4

3/8

4/16

4/8

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

woodblocks

drums

*ff*

*f*

*p*

*ppp*

*ff*

*f*

*p*

L.V.

L.V.

L.V.

L.V.

8va

8va

[illegible]

3B

35

$\frac{2}{8}$  ♩ = 72

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{2}{8}$

$\frac{4}{4}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

woodblocks

drums

*Sva*-----

*Sva*-----

*Sva*-----

*Sva*-;

*Sva*-----

*f*-----*p*

*ppp*-----

*sfp*-----*ff*

*f*-----*p*

*ppp*-----

*sfp*-----

-----L.V.

-----

-----L.V.

-----

-----

40

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{2}{8}$

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{2}{8}$

$\frac{4}{8}$

$\frac{4}{16}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

woodblocks

drums

*Sva*-----

*Sva*-----

*Sva*-----

*Sva*-----

-----*ff*

*f*-----*p*

*ppp*-----

*sfp*-----*ff*

*f*-----*p*

-----L.V.

-----

-----L.V.

-----

-----L.V.

46

$\frac{4}{8}$

$\frac{4}{4}$

$\frac{4}{16}$

$\frac{4}{8}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

woodblocks

drums

8va-----;

8va-----;

8va-----;

8va-----;

ppp

sfp

ff

f

p

ppp

8va-----;

8va-----;

8va-----;

8va-----;

L.V.

L.V.

4

50

$\frac{7}{16}$  ♩ = 96

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{7}{16}$

$\frac{7}{8}$

$\frac{3}{16}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

woodblocks

drums

KEYS

8va-----;

p

PEGS

8vb-----;

PEGS

8vb-----;

mp

mp

p

mp

KEYS

8vb-----;

3:2

3:2

3:2

3:2

4:3

4:3





64

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

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

woodblocks

drums

PEGS

KEYS

8va

8vb

mp

pp

p

8:5

3:2

4:3

8:7

3:2

8:5

3:2

68

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

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

woodblocks

drums

PEGS

KEYS

8va

8vb

pp

p

mp

4:3

3:2

8:7

4:3

3:2

6:5

4:3

72

7

16

7

5

16

3

4

♩ = 80

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

PEGS

8va

PEGS

8va

KEYS

8va

shakers

woodblocks

drums

76

8

3

6

16

3

4

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

Sub

L.V.

Sub

shakers

woodblocks

drums

(80)

3

3

6

3

♩ = 112

musical score for measures 80-84, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, woodblocks, and drums. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings (*ff*, *f*, *p*, *ppp*). The piano part includes a sub-octave line labeled *Sub-i*. The shakers part includes a line labeled *L.V.*. The woodblocks part includes a line labeled *8va*. The drums part includes a line labeled *8va*.

(85)

7

2

♩ = 48

musical score for measures 85-89, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, woodblocks, and drums. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings (*f*, *p*, *ppp*). The piano part includes a sub-octave line labeled *8va*. The shakers part includes a line labeled *L.V.*. The woodblocks part includes a line labeled *8va*. The drums part includes a line labeled *8va*.

8

91

$\frac{3}{4}$

$\frac{5}{16}$

$\frac{9}{16}$  ♩ = 80

$\frac{3}{4}$

musical score for measures 91-94, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, woodblocks, and drums. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings (*f*, *p*, *ppp*, *ff*). The piano part includes a section marked "L.V." (Left Voice) and a section marked "8va" (Octave).

95

$\frac{9}{16}$

$\frac{3}{8}$

$\frac{3}{4}$

musical score for measures 95-98, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, woodblocks, and drums. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings (*ff*, *f*, *p*, *ppp*, *ff*, *f*, *p*). The piano part includes a section marked "L.V." (Left Voice) and a section marked "8va" (Octave).



10B

111

5/16

7/16

5/16

2/4 ♩ = 48

musical score for measures 111-115, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, woodblocks, and drums. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings (ff, f, p, ppp). Rhythmic patterns are indicated by time signatures (5/16, 7/16, 2/4) and specific rhythmic values (3:2, 4:3, 6:5, 8:5, 12:7). The piano part includes an 8va marking and a L.V. (Lento) instruction.

10C

116

3/4

5/16

7/16

5/16

2/4 ♩ = 48

musical score for measures 116-120, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, woodblocks, and drums. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings (ff, f, p). Rhythmic patterns are indicated by time signatures (3/4, 5/16, 7/16, 2/4) and specific rhythmic values (3:2, 4:3, 6:5, 8:7). The piano part includes an 8va marking and a L.V. (Lento) instruction.

121

$\frac{3}{4}$

$\frac{5}{16}$

10D

$\frac{2}{4}$  ♩ = 48

musical score for measures 121-124, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, woodblocks, and drums. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings like *ppp*, *f*, and *p*. It also features time signatures  $\frac{3}{4}$  and  $\frac{5}{16}$ , and a tempo marking of  $\frac{2}{4}$  ♩ = 48. The piano part includes a section marked "L.V." (Left Voice).

125

$\frac{3}{4}$

$\frac{5}{16}$

$\frac{7}{16}$

$\frac{5}{16}$

musical score for measures 125-128, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, woodblocks, and drums. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings like *ppp*, *ff*, and *ff*. It also features time signatures  $\frac{3}{4}$ ,  $\frac{5}{16}$ ,  $\frac{7}{16}$ , and  $\frac{5}{16}$ . The piano part includes a section marked "L.V." (Left Voice).



## II

130

**2**  
**4** ♩ = 64

2

316

24

202

3  
16

2


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

- saxophone**: Plays a melodic line in the upper register, featuring complex rhythmic patterns and dynamic markings.
- e-guitar**: Provides a harmonic and rhythmic accompaniment, often mirroring the saxophone's melodic lines.
- piano**: Features a complex rhythmic accompaniment with various time signatures (3:2, 7:6, 5:4, 4:3) and dynamic markings (f, p, ppp, sfz, ff).
- shakers**: Provide a steady, rhythmic accompaniment.
- woodblocks**: Add a percussive, rhythmic element to the accompaniment.
- drums**: Provide a steady, rhythmic accompaniment.

The score includes various musical notations such as time signatures (3:2, 7:6, 5:4, 4:3), dynamic markings (f, p, ppp, sfz, ff), and articulation marks (accents, slurs). The overall structure is a 12-measure piece, with the piano part featuring a complex rhythmic pattern that changes throughout the piece.

## I2A

138

**2**  = 72

24

202

44

This musical score is for the song "The Sound of Silence" by Simon & Garfunkel. It is a full orchestration for a live band, featuring the following instruments:

- saxophone**: Plays a melodic line in the bass clef, starting with a half note G2, followed by a half note A2, and then a half note B2. It then plays a series of eighth notes: G2, A2, B2, C3, D3, E3, F3, G3, A3, B3, C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5, A5, B5, C6, D6, E6, F6, G6, A6, B6, C7, D7, E7, F7, G7, A7, B7, C8, D8, E8, F8, G8, A8, B8, C9, D9, E9, F9, G9, A9, B9, C10, D10, E10, F10, G10, A10, B10, C11, D11, E11, F11, G11, A11, B11, C12, D12, E12, F12, G12, A12, B12, C13, D13, E13, F13, G13, A13, B13, C14, D14, E14, F14, G14, A14, B14, C15, D15, E15, F15, G15, A15, B15, C16, D16, E16, F16, G16, A16, B16, C17, D17, E17, F17, G17, A17, B17, C18, D18, E18, F18, G18, A18, B18, C19, D19, E19, F19, G19, A19, B19, C20, D20, E20, F20, G20, A20, B20, C21, D21, E21, F21, G21, A21, B21, C22, D22, E22, F22, G22, A22, B22, C23, D23, E23, F23, G23, A23, B23, C24, D24, E24, F24, G24, A24, B24, C25, D25, E25, F25, G25, A25, B25, C26, D26, E26, F26, G26, A26, B26, C27, D27, E27, F27, G27, A27, B27, C28, D28, E28, F28, G28, A28, B28, C29, D29, E29, F29, G29, A29, B29, C30, D30, E30, F30, G30, A30, B30, C31, D31, E31, F31, G31, A31, B31, C32, D32, E32, F32, G32, A32, B32, C33, D33, E33, F33, G33, A33, B33, C34, D34, E34, F34, G34, A34, B34, C35, D35, E35, F35, G35, A35, B35, C36, D36, E36, F36, G36, A36, B36, C37, D37, E37, F37, G37, A37, B37, C38, D38, E38, F38, G38, A38, B38, C39, D39, E39, F39, G39, A39, B39, C40, D40, E40, F40, G40, A40, B40, C41, D41, E41, F41, G41, A41, B41, C42, D42, E42, F42, G42, A42, B42, C43, D43, E43, F43, G43, A43, B43, C44, D44, E44, F44, G44, A44, B44, C45, D45, E45, F45, G45, A45, B45, C46, D46, E46, F46, G46, A46, B46, C47, D47, E47, F47, G47, A47, B47, C48, D48, E48, F48, G48, A48, B48, C49, D49, E49, F49, G49, A49, B49, C50, D50, E50, F50, G50, A50, B50, C51, D51, E51, F51, G51, A51, B51, C52, D52, E52, F52, G52, A52, B52, C53, D53, E53, F53, G53, A53, B53, C54, D54, E54, F54, G54, A54, B54, C55, D55, E55, F55, G55, A55, B55, C56, D56, E56, F56, G56, A56, B56, C57, D57, E57, F57, G57, A57, B57, C58, D58, E58, F58, G58, A58, B58, C59, D59, E59, F59, G59, A59, B59, C60, D60, E60, F60, G60, A60, B60, C61, D61, E61, F61, G61, A61, B61, C62, D62, E62, F62, G62, A62, B62, C63, D63, E63, F63, G63, A63, B63, C64, D64, E64, F64, G64, A64, B64, C65, D65, E65, F65, G65, A65, B65, C66, D66, E66, F66, G66, A66, B66, C67, D67, E67, F67, G67, A67, B67, C68, D68, E68, F68, G68, A68, B68, C69, D69, E69, F69, G69, A69, B69, C70, D70, E70, F70, G70, A70, B70, C71, D71, E71, F71, G71, A71, B71, C72, D72, E72, F72, G72, A72, B72, C73, D73, E73, F73, G73, A73, B73, C74, D74, E74, F74, G74, A74, B74, C75, D75, E75, F75, G75, A75, B75, C76, D76, E76, F76, G76, A76, B76, C77, D77, E77, F77, G77, A77, B77, C78, D78, E78, F78, G78, A78, B78, C79, D79, E79, F79, G79, A79, B79, C80, D80, E80, F80, G80, A80, B80, C81, D81, E81, F81, G81, A81, B81, C82, D82, E82, F82, G82, A82, B82, C83, D83, E83, F83, G83, A83, B83, C84, D84, E84, F84, G84, A84, B84, C85, D85, E85, F85, G85, A85, B85, C86, D86, E86, F86, G86, A86, B86, C87, D87, E87, F87, G87, A87, B87, C88, D88, E88, F88, G88, A88, B88, C89, D89, E89, F89, G89, A89, B89, C90, D90, E90, F90, G90, A90, B90, C91, D91, E91, F91, G91, A91, B91, C92, D92, E92, F92, G92, A92, B92, C93, D93, E93, F93, G93, A93, B93, C94, D94, E94, F94, G94, A94, B94, C95, D95, E95, F95, G95, A95, B95, C96, D96, E96, F96, G96, A96, B96, C97, D97, E97, F97, G97, A97, B97, C98, D98, E98, F98, G98, A98, B98, C99, D99, E99, F99, G99, A99, B99, C100, D100, E100, F100, G100, A100, B100, C101, D101, E101, F101, G101, A101, B101, C102, D102, E102, F102, G102, A102, B102, C103, D103, E103, F103, G103, A103, B103, C104, D104, E104, F104, G104, A104, B104, C105, D105, E105, F105, G105, A105, B105, C106, D106, E106, F106, G106, A106, B106, C107, D107, E107, F107, G107, A107, B107, C108, D108, E108, F108, G108, A108, B108, C109, D109, E109, F109, G109, A109, B109, C110, D110, E110, F110, G110, A110, B110, C111, D111, E111, F111, G111, A111, B111, C112, D112, E112, F112, G112, A112, B112, C113, D113, E113, F113, G113, A113, B113, C114, D114, E114, F114, G114, A114, B114, C115, D115, E115, F115, G115, A115, B115, C116, D116, E116, F116, G116, A116, B116, C117, D117, E117, F117, G117, A117, B117, C118, D118, E118, F118, G118, A118, B118, C119, D119, E119, F119, G119, A119, B119, C120, D120, E120, F120, G120, A120, B120, C121, D121, E121, F121, G121, A121, B121, C122, D122, E122, F122, G122, A122, B122, C123, D123, E123, F123, G123, A123, B123, C124, D124, E124, F124, G124, A124, B124, C125, D125, E125, F125, G125, A125, B125, C126, D126, E126, F126, G126, A126, B126, C127, D127, E127, F127, G127, A127, B127, C128, D128, E128, F128, G128, A128, B128, C129, D129, E129, F129, G129, A129, B129, C130, D130, E130, F130, G130, A130, B130, C131, D131, E131, F131, G131, A131, B131, C132, D132, E132, F132, G132, A132, B132, C133, D133, E133, F133, G133, A133, B133, C134, D134, E134, F134, G134, A134, B134, C135, D135, E135, F135, G135, A135, B135, C136, D136, E136, F136,

143

2

4

4

2

8

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

ppp

sfp

ff

f

p

ppp

sfp

shakers

woodblocks

drums

147

4

16

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

ff

f

p

ppp

sfp

ff

shakers

woodblocks

drums

12B

150

$\frac{4}{4}$  ♩ = 72

musical score for measures 150-152, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, woodblocks, and drums. The score includes dynamic markings (*f*, *p*, *ppp*, *fp*, *ff*) and articulation (accents, slurs). The piano part includes a section marked "L.V." (Left Hand).

153

musical score for measures 153-155, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, woodblocks, and drums. The score includes dynamic markings (*fp*, *ff*, *f*, *p*, *ppp*) and articulation (accents, slurs). The piano part includes a section marked "L.V." (Left Hand).

158

2 2 2 4 4

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

woodblocks

drums

*f* *p* *ppp* *sfp* *ff* *f* *p* *ppp* *sfp* *ff* *f*

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

*Sua* *Sua*

163

2 2 4 8 8 2 2

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

woodblocks

drums

*p* *ppp* *sfp* *ff* *f* *p* *ppp*

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

*Sua* *Sua* *Sua* *Sua*

13

169

 $\frac{6}{8}$  ♩ = 80 $\frac{9}{16}$  $\frac{6}{16}$  $\frac{3}{8}$ 

musical score for measures 169-172, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, woodblocks, and drums. The score includes various time signatures ( $\frac{6}{8}$ ,  $\frac{9}{16}$ ,  $\frac{6}{16}$ ,  $\frac{3}{8}$ ) and dynamic markings (*f*, *ppp*, *ff*, *f*). The saxophone part features complex rhythmic patterns with ratios like 5:4, 5:4, 3:2, 6:5, 5:4, 7:6, 5:3, and 5:4. The piano part includes a section marked "L.V." (Left Ventricle) and a section marked "8vb" (8va).

173

 $\frac{3}{4}$  $\frac{3}{8}$  $\frac{3}{4}$  $\frac{9}{16}$ 

musical score for measures 173-176, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, woodblocks, and drums. The score includes various time signatures ( $\frac{3}{4}$ ,  $\frac{3}{8}$ ,  $\frac{3}{4}$ ,  $\frac{9}{16}$ ) and dynamic markings (*p*, *ppp*, *ff*, *f*, *p*, *ppp*). The saxophone part features complex rhythmic patterns with ratios like 5:4, 11:10, 3:2, 4:3, 9:8, and 7:6. The piano part includes a section marked "L.V." (Left Ventricle) and a section marked "8vb" (8va).

14

177

7/8 ♩ = 96

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

woodblocks

drums

6:5

3:2

3

3:2

KEYS

8va

PEGS

8va

PEGS

8va

*p*

*mp*

*pp*

*p*

*mp*

*p*

*mp*

*pp*

PEGS

8vb

4:3

3:2

3:2

4:3

6:5

3:2

180

7/16

3/16

5/8

7/8

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

woodblocks

drums

3:2

4:3

KEYS

8va

PEGS

8va

KEYS

8va

PEGS

8va

*p*

*mp*

*p*

*mp*

*pp*

*p*

8vb

3:2

3:2

6:5

3:2

KEYS

8vb

184

3

16

5

16

3

16

7

8

7

16

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

8va

8vb

shakers

woodblocks

drums

190

7

8

3

16

7

16

5

8

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

8va

8vb

shakers

woodblocks

drums

194

7/8

3/16 7/16 5/8

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

woodblocks

drums

3:2

4:3

PEGS

KEYS

8va

8vb

mp

p

mp

pp

6:5

8:7

4:3

198

7/8

7/16 7/8

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

woodblocks

drums

3:2

3:2

PEGS

KEYS

8va

8vb

p

mp

pp

p

3:2

3:2

3:2

3:2

3:2

12:7

4:3



201

3

16

7

16

7

8

6:5

saxophone

e-guitar

KEYS

8va-----;

mp

PEGS

8va-----;

p

mp

pp

p

mp

KEYS

8va-----;

3:2

4:3

4:3

6:5

shakers

woodblocks

drums

8vb-----;

3:2

4:3

8vb-----;

8vb-----;

8:7

3:2

3:2

3:2

206

3

16

5

8

3

16

15

2

4

48

5

16

saxophone

e-guitar

PEGS

8va-----;

mp

pp

KEYS

8va-----;

p

mp

f

p

ppp

8va-----;

8va-----;

8va-----;

8va-----;

3:2

3:2

3:2

3:2

shakers

woodblocks

drums

8vb-----;

3:2

4:3

3:2

3:2

3:2

3:2

L.V.

16

(212)

 $\frac{2}{4}$  ♩ = 64 $\frac{2}{8}$  $\frac{3}{16}$  $\frac{2}{4}$  $\frac{2}{8}$  $\frac{3}{16}$  $\frac{2}{8}$ 

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

woodblocks

drums

17A

(220)

 $\frac{7}{8}$  ♩ = 96 $\frac{3}{16}$  $\frac{7}{16}$  $\frac{5}{16}$ 

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

woodblocks

drums

226

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

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

woodblocks

drums

PEGS

KEYS

8va

8vb

Sub

mp

pp

p

231

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

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

woodblocks

drums

PEGS

KEYS

8va

8vb

Sub

mp

pp

p

7  
163  
16

I7B

245  $\frac{7}{16}$   $\frac{3}{16}$   $\frac{5}{16}$   $\frac{7}{8}$  ♩ = 96

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

woodblocks

drums

PEGS

KEYS

8va

8vb

mp

pp

p

6:5

3:2

4:3

3:2

4:3

3:2

250  $\frac{3}{16}$   $\frac{11}{16}$   $\frac{7}{16}$   $\frac{11}{16}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

woodblocks

drums

PEGS

KEYS

8va

8vb

pp

p

mp

8:5

3:2

4:3

3:2

6:5

3:2

3:2

[illegible][illegible]

*Jamaica Plain*  
*December 2013 - February 2014*

2014-02-14

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

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