
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)

I

$\frac{2}{4}$ ♩ = 64

$\frac{2}{8}$

$\frac{4}{8}$

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{2}{8}$

musical score for measures 1-6, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums. The piano part includes complex rhythmic patterns with triplets and various time signatures (5:4, 4:3, 5:4, 5:3, 5:4, 4:3, 5:4, 5:4).

2

⑧

$\frac{3}{4}$ ♩ = 72

$\frac{9}{16}$

$\frac{3}{4}$

musical score for measures 7-9, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums. The piano part continues with complex rhythmic patterns, including triplets and various time signatures (5:4, 4:3, 5:4, 5:4, 5:3, 5:4, 5:4).

3A

12

6/8

3/8

3/16 ♩ = 80

1/4

5/8

musical score for measures 12-17, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums. The piano part includes complex rhythmic patterns with triplets and sixteenth notes.

18

2/4

3/16

2/4

1/4

5/8

1/4

2/4

musical score for measures 18-24, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums. The piano part continues with complex rhythmic patterns.

25

1/4

5/8

1/4

musical score for measures 25-30, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums. The piano part continues with complex rhythmic patterns.

33

316

58

14

316

58

14

316

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

3B

41

14

58

14

58

316

14

316

14

516

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

51

24

316

24

14

316

14

24

14

316

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

(60)

 $\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{5}{8}$ $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{3}{16}$ ♩ = 96

musical score for measures 60-66, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums. The piano part includes complex rhythmic patterns with various time signatures (5:4, 4:3, 3:2, 5:4, 3:2, 5:4, 4:3, 5:4) and rests.

(67)

 $\frac{5}{16}$ $\frac{5}{8}$ $\frac{7}{8}$ $\frac{5}{16}$

musical score for measures 67-72, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums. The piano part continues with complex rhythmic patterns, including time signatures like 5:4, 4:3, 5:3, 3:2, and 5:4.

(73)

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

musical score for measures 73-78, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums. The piano part shows further rhythmic development with time signatures such as 5:4, 3:2, 4:3, and 5:4.

78

5/16 5/8 7/16

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

[illegible]

90 **5** **3**₁₆ **3**₄ ♩ = 72 **9**₁₆

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

95

3/4

6/8

3/8

3/8 ♩ = 48

musical score for measures 95-100, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums. The piano part includes complex rhythmic patterns with triplets and sixteenth notes, and various time signatures (3/4, 6/8, 3/8).

101

7/16 ♩ = 108

5/16

2/4

7/16

3/4

musical score for measures 101-106, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums. The piano part continues with complex rhythmic patterns and various time signatures (7/16, 5/16, 2/4, 7/16, 3/4).

107

5/8

7/16

2/4

7/16

5/8

musical score for measures 107-112, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums. The piano part continues with complex rhythmic patterns and various time signatures (5/8, 7/16, 2/4, 7/16, 5/8).

8

(112)

$\frac{3}{4}$ ♩ = 72

$\frac{9}{16}$

$\frac{3}{4}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

9

(116)

$\frac{6}{8}$

$\frac{3}{8}$

$\frac{2}{4}$ ♩ = 64

$\frac{3}{8}$

$\frac{4}{8}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

10A

(123)

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{2}{8}$

$\frac{6}{8}$ ♩ = 108

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{6}{8}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

129

2

4

8

2

4

8

5

8

5

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

5:4

4:3

5:4

3:2

5:4

3:2

5:4

4:3

5:4

5:4

3:2

4:3

shakers

drums

10B

134

2

4

8

2

4

5

16

2

4

108

5

16

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

5:4

5:4

3:2

5:4

5:4

5:3

5:4

5:4

3:2

shakers

drums

140

2

4

7

16

3

4

5

16

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

5:3

5:4

3:2

5:4

5:4

5:4

3:2

5:3

shakers

drums

145

3
4

5
16

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

10C

151

7
16 ♩ = 108

5
16

2
4

7
16

3
4

5
8

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

10D

157

7
16

2
4

7
16

5
8

6
8 ♩ = 108

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

The musical score for "The Sound of Silence" is presented in a multi-staff format. The top staff is for the saxophone, followed by the electric guitar, and then the piano. The piano part is divided into two staves, with the left hand playing the bass line and the right hand playing the melody. The shakers and drums are represented by a single staff at the bottom. The score is in 2/4 time and includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings. The piano part features complex rhythms with many beamed notes and rests, and the shakers and drums provide a steady, rhythmic accompaniment.

167

6/8 5/8 2/4 6/8 2/4

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

I I

172

$\frac{5}{16}$ $\frac{2}{4}$ ♩ = 64 $\frac{2}{8}$ $\frac{4}{8}$ $\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{2}{8}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

12A

180

$\frac{1}{4}$ ♩ = 80

$\frac{5}{16}$

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{1}{4}$

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{1}{4}$

$\frac{5}{16}$

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{3}{16}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

190

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{1}{4}$

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{1}{4}$

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{1}{4}$

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{1}{4}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

12B

199

$\frac{5}{8}$

$\frac{1}{4}$

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{3}{16}$ ♩ = 80

$\frac{1}{4}$

$\frac{5}{8}$

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

206

24

316

24

14

58

14

24

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

5:3

5:4

3:2

5:4

3:2

5:4

5:4

4:3

3:2

5:4

5:4

4:3

shakers

drums

213

14

58

14

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

5:4

5:4

5:3

3:2

5:3

4:3

5:4

shakers

drums

221

316

58

14

316

58

14

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

4:3

5:4

5:4

3:2

5:4

3:2

5:4

3:2

5:3

shakers

drums

I3

228

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{1}{4}$

$\frac{5}{8}$

$\frac{3}{4}$ $\text{♩} = 72$

$\frac{9}{16}$

musical score for measures 228-233, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums. The piano part includes complex rhythmic patterns with 5:4 and 3:2 ratios.

I4

234

$\frac{3}{4}$

$\frac{6}{8}$

$\frac{3}{8}$

$\frac{3}{16}$ $\text{♩} = 96$

$\frac{7}{16}$

musical score for measures 234-239, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums. The piano part continues with complex rhythmic patterns, including 5:3, 5:4, and 3:2 ratios.

240

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{7}{8}$

musical score for measures 240-245, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums. The piano part includes complex rhythmic patterns with 4:3, 5:4, and 5:3 ratios.

244

7
16

7
8

3
16

5
8

musical score for saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums, measures 244-248. The piano part includes complex rhythmic patterns with various time signatures (5:4, 5:3, 3:2) and articulation marks.

249

7
16

7
8

5
16

3
16

5
8

musical score for saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums, measures 249-254. The piano part continues with complex rhythmic patterns, including 4:3, 5:4, and 3:2 time signatures.

255

3
16

5
16

5
8

7
16

7
8

5
16

musical score for saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums, measures 255-259. The piano part features complex rhythmic patterns with time signatures 3:2, 5:4, 4:3, and 5:3.

261

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{5}{16}$

$\frac{7}{16}$

$\frac{7}{8}$

$\frac{5}{8}$

musical score for saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums, measures 261-266. The piano part includes complex rhythmic patterns with various time signatures and accidentals.

15

267

$\frac{7}{8}$

$\frac{5}{16}$

$\frac{3}{16}$

$\frac{2}{4}$ ♩ = 108

$\frac{3}{4}$

musical score for saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums, measures 267-271. The piano part continues with complex rhythmic patterns.

272

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{3}{4}$

$\frac{5}{16}$

$\frac{2}{4}$

musical score for saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums, measures 272-276. The piano part continues with complex rhythmic patterns.

16

17A

(277)

$\frac{2}{4}$ ♩ = 64

$\frac{2}{8}$

$\frac{4}{8}$

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{2}{8}$

$\frac{3}{16}$ ♩ = 96

$\frac{5}{16}$

musical score for measures 277-285, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums. The piano part includes complex rhythmic patterns with triplets and sixteenth notes, and various time signatures ($\frac{2}{4}$, $\frac{2}{8}$, $\frac{4}{8}$, $\frac{2}{4}$, $\frac{2}{8}$).

(286)

$\frac{5}{8}$

$\frac{7}{8}$

$\frac{5}{16}$

musical score for measures 286-292, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums. The piano part continues with complex rhythmic patterns and time signatures ($\frac{5}{8}$, $\frac{7}{8}$, $\frac{5}{16}$).

(293)

$\frac{7}{8}$

$\frac{7}{16}$

$\frac{7}{8}$

musical score for measures 293-300, featuring saxophone, e-guitar, piano, shakers, and drums. The piano part includes complex rhythmic patterns and time signatures ($\frac{7}{8}$, $\frac{7}{16}$, $\frac{7}{8}$).

317

7
8

7
16

5
8

7
16

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

322

5
16

7
16

5
8

3
16

saxophone

e-guitar

piano

shakers

drums

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

€25 / \$35