

Black Water



Ker Walicki

Black Water

for
clarinet,
piano,
&
computer

Ken Walicki

Black Water

Technical Notes

Black Water has a computer element that, optimally, should be heard in stereo.

Black Water was created using Digital Performer 7.21. The computer and click parts are sent through a D/A converter. A stereo mix of the computer part is bussed through to the house system, while the click track is bussed through a headphone amp to each performer who is wearing a single ear bud.

If the house system is mono and not stereo, a CD can be used. The computer part is sent through to the house while the click is bussed to the performers. Please feel free to add any compression and a bit of reverb to make the computer part warm.

Black Water also has a slideshow element, which was realized on iPhoto.

-KW

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Program Notes

Black Water was written in September 2010 for clarinet, piano, computer, and slideshow. It is a reaction to the rape and destruction of our environment for monetary profit. I chose the title *Black Water* after flying over the Gulf of Mexico in August 2010 and seeing the results of the BP or Deepwater Horizon oil spill. The water was black and shiny. It was obvious nothing could live there. It is the largest accidental marine oil spill in the history of the petroleum industry. The oil spill released about 4.9 million barrels, or 185 million gallons of crude oil. It was estimated that 53,000 barrels per day were escaping from the well just before it was capped. It is believed that the daily flow rate diminished over time, starting at about 62,000 barrels per day and decreasing as the reservoir of hydrocarbons feeding the gusher was gradually depleted. The spill has caused extensive damage to marine and wildlife habitats as well as the Gulf's fishing and tourism industries. Skimmer ships, floating containment booms, anchored barriers, sand-filled barricades along shorelines, and dispersants were used in an attempt to protect hundreds of miles of beaches, wetlands, and estuaries from the spreading oil. Scientists have also reported immense underwater plumes of dissolved oil not visible at the surface.

The term Blackwater is also associated with the Blackwater USA private military company founded in 1997 by Erik Prince and Al Clark. Blackwater USA was company whose employees committed serious abuses in Iraq, including killing civilians. Altogether, there are documented fourteen separate shooting incidents involving Blackwater forces, which resulted in the deaths of ten civilians and the wounding of seven others, not including the Nisoor Square massacre that killed seventeen civilians. A third of the shootings occurred while Blackwater forces were guarding US diplomats.

The music, as compared to the images, is somewhat happy sounding. I did this to as a reaction to how the media can take g as horrible and spin it into a "feel good" happening.

-KW

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♩ = 54

clarinet

piano

computer

7

13

sub. p

17

mp *mf*

4/4

19

Musical score for measures 19-20. The score includes a treble clef staff, a grand staff (treble and bass clefs), and a bass clef staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). Measure 19 starts with a quarter rest, followed by a sixteenth-note run. Measure 20 continues the melodic and accompaniment lines.

21

Musical score for measures 21-22. The score includes a treble clef staff, a grand staff (treble and bass clefs), and a bass clef staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). Measure 21 starts with a quarter rest, followed by a dotted quarter note and an eighth note. Measure 22 continues the melodic and accompaniment lines.

23

Musical score for measures 23-24. The score is written for a grand piano with three staves: Treble, Middle, and Bass. Measure 23 features a treble clef staff with a whole rest, a middle clef staff with a sixteenth-note arpeggiated figure, and a bass clef staff with a sixteenth-note arpeggiated figure. Measure 24 features a treble clef staff with a whole rest, a middle clef staff with a sixteenth-note arpeggiated figure, and a bass clef staff with a sixteenth-note arpeggiated figure. A triplet of eighth notes is marked with a '3' in measure 24. Below the bass staff, there are two arrows pointing right, indicating a continuation of the arpeggiated figure.

25

Musical score for measures 25-26. The score is written for a grand piano with three staves: Treble, Middle, and Bass. Measure 25 features a treble clef staff with a whole note, a middle clef staff with a sixteenth-note arpeggiated figure, and a bass clef staff with a sixteenth-note arpeggiated figure. Measure 26 features a treble clef staff with a whole note, a middle clef staff with a sixteenth-note arpeggiated figure, and a bass clef staff with a sixteenth-note arpeggiated figure. Below the bass staff, there are two arrows pointing right, indicating a continuation of the arpeggiated figure. A vertical line is drawn at the end of measure 26. Below the treble staff, there is a text annotation: "imitates mm. 19-25 of piano with ring modulation and reverb".

6
31

Musical score for measures 31-33. The top staff is a single melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, some with accents. The middle system is a grand staff with piano accompaniment. The bottom system consists of two empty staves with arrows pointing right.

34

Musical score for measures 34-35. The top staff has a melodic line with a triplet of eighth notes marked *mp* and an accent. The middle system is a grand staff with piano accompaniment. The bottom system consists of two empty staves with arrows pointing right.

36

Musical score for measures 36-37. The score is in 2/4 time. It features a vocal line, a piano accompaniment, and a percussion part. The piano accompaniment includes a melody in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The percussion part includes a clavichord sound and a low muted sound. The dynamic marking is *mp*. The score is divided into two measures, each with a 2/4 time signature.

38

Musical score for measures 38-40. The score is in 2/4 time. It features a vocal line, a piano accompaniment, and a percussion part. The piano accompaniment includes a melody in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The dynamic marking is *mp*. The score is divided into three measures, each with a 2/4 time signature. A triplet of eighth notes is marked with a '3' and a sharp sign.

41

Musical score for measures 41-43. The system consists of five staves. The top staff is a single treble clef staff with a melodic line. The second and third staves are a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) with piano accompaniment. The bottom two staves are empty staves with treble and bass clefs, respectively, containing a long horizontal line. The time signature is 3/4. Measure 41 features a melodic line with eighth notes and a piano accompaniment with a bass line. Measure 42 continues the melodic line with a slur and piano accompaniment. Measure 43 concludes the system with a final note and a fermata.

44

Musical score for measures 44-46. The system consists of five staves. The top staff is a single treble clef staff with a melodic line. The second and third staves are a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) with piano accompaniment. The bottom two staves are empty staves with treble and bass clefs, respectively, containing a long horizontal line. The time signature is 3/4. Measure 44 features a melodic line with a slur and piano accompaniment. Measure 45 features a melodic line with a slur and piano accompaniment, including a 15th fingering instruction (*15^{ma}*) and an 8va instruction (*8^{va}*). Measure 46 concludes the system with a melodic line and piano accompaniment, including a *mp* dynamic marking and a fermata. There are four black oval shapes above the bottom two staves in measure 46.