

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

The School of Music will consider each applicant's musical training and performance standard as indicated in his/her application form, and will invite selected candidates to attend a preliminary audition in their chosen Major Study.

Shortlisted candidates from the preliminary audition will be asked to attend a final audition as well as tests in music theory and aural perception. Applicants for BMus (Hons) Degree programme will also be interviewed on their commitment to studying performance or composition and their reasons for choosing the Academy.

The audition panel will look for technical control, musical understanding and expressiveness, general musicianship, creativity and potential for further development. The number of places that can be offered for certain major studies is limited, and may vary from year to year.

For BMus (Hons) Degree applicants, it may be necessary to re-direct the applicants to another study programme if their performance standard falls below the entry requirements of the chosen programme of study.

Entrance Tests in Aural Perception and Music Theory

For applicants of the BMus (Hons) Degree and Diploma in Music programmes, shortlisted candidates from the preliminary audition are required to attend entrance tests in aural perception and music theory. The test in aural perception includes questions in intervallic, chordal, harmonic, melodic and rhythmic recognition and dictation, as well as questions regarding the stylistic and formal characteristics of listening excerpts. The test in music theory includes questions in harmonization and score analysis. Sample papers of the tests have been uploaded to the website of the School of Music.

Please note: Portfolios and recordings will not be returned to applicants.

CHINESE MUSIC

Preliminary audition

Applicants should prepare a programme of contrasting works of their own choice. The audition panel reserves the right to hear only movements or portions of the works prepared.

The requirements for the various programmes of study are:

Diploma

2 works of contrasting musical style, character and tempo that will best demonstrate applicants' technical and musical abilities.

BMus(Hons) Degree

3 works of different musical style, character and tempo.

Final audition

Works performed at the preliminary audition may be repeated. However, if possible, please include

at least one work different to those offered in the preliminary audition. Scales, arpeggios and sight-reading may be tested.

COMPOSITION AND ELECTRONIC MUSIC

Preliminary audition interview

Applicants will need to submit a portfolio of compositions for the audition interview. The portfolio should reach the School of Music office.

The requirements for the various programmes of study are:

Diploma - 3 compositions

BMus(Hons) Degree - 4 compositions

Applicants must provide music scores for all their compositions. Score notation must be legible, and with details of instrumentation and performance. If possible, please include audio-recordings of the works in MD, CD or cassette tape format.

Applicants will be asked to talk briefly about their portfolio, their musical experience and their interest in creative work.

Final audition interview

The interview will involve a more in-depth discussion of the creative processes and compositional craft as shown in applicants' portfolio. Applicants may also be asked to demonstrate their keyboard skills if they learn the piano or another keyboard instrument. In addition to the interview, applicants will need to complete a 2-hour paper in harmony, counterpoint and orchestration.

KEYBOARD

Preliminary audition

Applicants should prepare a programme of contrasting works of their own choice. The audition panel reserves the right to hear only movements or portions of the works prepared.

The requirements for the various programmes of study are:

Diploma

2 works of contrasting musical style, character and tempo. The repertoire listed in the DipABRSM (Performing) of the "Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music" Diploma Examination is an indication of the minimum standard required but other works of similar standard or above can be chosen.

BMus(Hons) Degree

3 works of different musical style, character and tempo. The repertoire listed in the DipABRSM (Performing) of the "Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music" Diploma Examination is an indication of the minimum standard required but other works of similar standard or above can be chosen.

Final audition

Works performed at the preliminary audition may be repeated. However, if possible, please include

at least one work different to those offered in the preliminary audition. Sight-reading skills may be tested.

STRINGS — VIOLIN, VIOLA, CELLO, DOUBLE BASS

Preliminary audition

Applicants should prepare a programme of contrasting works of their own choice. The audition panel reserves the right to hear only movements or portions of the works prepared.

Applicants will need to provide their own pianist if they intend to perform pieces with piano accompaniment. Please note that it is important to have adequate rehearsals with a competent accompanist for the audition.

The requirements for the various programmes of study are:

Diploma

2 works of contrasting musical style, character and tempo. The repertoire listed in the ABRSM Grade 8 of the "Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music" Practical Examination is an indication of the minimum standard required but other works of similar standard or above can be chosen. Applicants will also be asked to play one major and one minor scale of their own choice.

BMus(Hons) Degree

3 works of different musical style, character and tempo. The repertoire listed in the DipABRSM (Performing) of the "Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music" Diploma Examination is an indication of the minimum standard required but other works of similar standard or above can be chosen. Applicants also need to prepare all major and minor scales, and one each of scales in thirds, sixths and octaves in any key of their own choice.

Final audition

Works performed at the preliminary audition may be repeated. However, if possible, please include at least one work different to those offered in the preliminary audition. Sight-reading skills may be tested.

STRINGS — HARP, CLASSICAL GUITAR

Preliminary audition

Applicants should prepare a programme of contrasting works of their own choice. The audition panel reserves the right to hear only movements or portions of the works prepared.

The requirements for the various programmes of study are:

Diploma

2 works of contrasting musical style, character and tempo that will best demonstrate applicants' technical and musical abilities. The music may be from studies or solo literature.

BMus(Hons) Degree

3 works of different musical style, character and tempo. The repertoire listed in the ABRSM Grade 8 of the "Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music" Practical Examination may serve as a

guide for the minimum standard expected but other works of similar standard or above can be chosen.

Final audition

Works performed at the preliminary audition may be repeated. However, if possible, please include at least one work different to those offered in the preliminary audition. Sight-reading skills may be tested.

WOODWIND, BRASS & PERCUSSION

Preliminary audition

Applicants should prepare a programme of contrasting works of their own choice. The audition panel reserves the right to hear only movements or portions of the works prepared. Percussion applicants will be required to perform on the snare drum and one tuned percussion instrument. Performing on the timpani is optional. Applicants will need to provide their own pianist if they intend to perform pieces with piano accompaniment. Please note that it is important to have adequate rehearsals with a competent accompanist for the audition. The requirements for the various programmes of study are:

Diploma

2 works of contrasting musical style, character and tempo that will best demonstrate applicants' technical and musical abilities. The music may be from studies, solo or concerto literature. Scales and arpeggios may be tested.

BMus(Hons) Degree

3 works of different musical style, character and tempo. The repertoire listed in the ABRSM Grade 8 of the "Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music" Practical Examination may serve as a guide for minimum standard expected but other works of similar standard or above can be chosen. Scales and arpeggios will be tested.

Final audition

Works performed at the preliminary audition may be repeated. However, if possible, please include at least one work different to those offered in the preliminary audition. Sight-reading skills may be tested.

VOCAL STUDIES

Preliminary audition

Applicants should prepare a programme of contrasting songs from the classical music repertoire of their own choice. The audition panel reserves the right to hear only part of the prepared works.

Applicants will need to provide their own pianist if they intend to perform pieces with piano accompaniment. Please note that it is important to have adequate rehearsals with a competent accompanist for the audition.

The requirements for the various programmes of study are:

Diploma

2 contrasting songs from the classical music repertoire that will best demonstrate applicants' technical and musical abilities. Applicants should sing from memory if possible.

BMus(Hons) Degree

3 art songs of different musical style, character and tempo, to be sung from memory if possible. At least one song must be sung in a European language other than English.

Final audition

Works performed at the preliminary audition may be repeated. However, if possible, please include at least one song different to those offered in the preliminary audition. Sight-reading skills may be tested.