

Progression – Music



A Level Preparation

This is a list of suggested listening to prepare you for the work that we will cover in the first year of A level. They are not prescribed works, and the lists are certainly not exhaustive, but these works are representative of the styles of the composers and periods we will be studying and therefore provide a 'taster'. It would be very useful if you were to do a little background research before listening to each piece so that you understand the context and are listening actively. Some of the works are quite long so you might find it easier to listen to a movement at a time until you become accustomed to appreciating longer works, however it is important to know, for example, the order and character of the movements of the complete work eg. the 4 movements of a symphony. You can find all of these works on You Tube. Wherever possible find a recording with score so that you can practise following scores (a key skill for A level)

Classical Period (early)

- CPE Bach – Flute Concerto in D minor (the Finale is a brilliant example of 'Sturm und Drang')
- Haydn – Symphony 45 'Farewell'

Classical Period (high)

HAYDN

- String Quartet 'Emperor'
- String Quartet 'The Lark'
- Piano Sonata in Eb Hob.XVI/49
- Piano Trio No 44 in E major
- Symphony no 100 'Military'
- Symphony no 104 'London'
- Sinfonia Concertante in Bb
- Variations in F minor (for piano)

MOZART

- Violin Sonata K301
- Piano Sonata in C minor
- Piano Trio K498 'Kegelstatt'
- String Quartet K465 'Dissonance'
- Piano Concerto K482
- Symphony No 36 'Linz'
- Symphony No 41 'Jupiter'
- Concerto for Flute and Harp K299
- Wind Serenade 'Gran Partita'

BEETHOVEN

- Piano Trio 'Archduke'
- Piano Trio Op1 no3 (C minor)
- Piano Sonata 'Pathetique'
- Piano Sonata 'Appassionata'
- String Quartet Op 59 no 1 'Rasumovsky'
- Piano Concerto no 5 'Emperor'
- Septet
- Symphony No 7 in Bb
- Choral Fantasia
- Overture 'Egmont'
- Bagatelles for piano

ROMANTIC PROGRAMME MUSIC

- Mendelssohn – Overture 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'
- Berlioz – 'Witches' Sabbath' from 'Symphonie Fantastique'
- Borodin – Pictures at an Exhibition
- Dukas – The Sorcerer's Apprentice
- Liszt – Fountains at the Villa d'Este
- Mussogsky – Night on a Bald Mountain
- Tchaikovsky – Romeo and Juliet Fantasy Overture
- Smetana – 'Vltava' from 'Ma Vlast'
- Rimsky-Korsakov 'Scheherezade'
- Beethoven – 6th Symphony

AMERICAN POPULAR SONG

- Ella Fitzgerald Sings Cole Porter
- Duke Ellington 'It don't mean a thing'
- Nat King Cole 'When I fall in love'
- Frank Sinatra Greatest Hits
- Mel Tourme – 'Bewitched, Bothered and Bewildered'
- Billie Holiday – 'Strange Fruit'
- Joe Williams – 'Everyday I have the blues'
- Fred Astaire – 'Puttin on the Ritz' (says 'put IT on the Ritz on Youtube!')
- Nina Simone – 'Mississippi Goddam', 'Backlash Blues'

Radio 3 is also a wonderful resource. You cannot go wrong, though particularly good are Music Matters, CD Review and the Early Music Show. Private Passions is also often really interesting in linking music with other aspects of peoples' lives. All are available on BBC Sounds.

Keep a diary of your listening with any thoughts about what you have heard.

The below You Tube course is ideal preparation for A level. A good level of music theory is essential for the tasks we need to do:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bHsX_wZeO1E&list=PLRhVgcgIVQ9kwGwcDZOH_ljGn5m3N7bwc&index=48