

## VCE MUSIC PERFORMANCE: CRITERIA AND GUIDELINES FOR APPROVAL OF ALTERNATIVE WORKS

### 1. ALTERNATIVE WORKS

The end-of-year performance examination for VCE Music Performance requires students who elect to perform as a

- **member of a group**, to perform two works selected from the *Prescribed list of group works* published by VCAA. In **some circumstances**, for example, an ensemble format not catered for within the list, students may wish to seek permission for an alternative work or works to be used to meet this requirement.
- **soloist**, to perform a program of works selected from the *Prescribed list of notated solo works* published by VCAA. In **exceptional circumstances**, students may seek permission to perform a work that is not on the list. In these situations the information below should be used by schools and teachers to ensure that the application form for approval of Alternative works is completed accurately.

In these situations schools and teachers should use the information below to ensure that the application form for approval of Alternative works is completed accurately. Schools and teachers should consider this information with the VCE Music study design, the current *Prescribed lists* which are published at <http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/vce/> and assessment information including criteria for the award of grades in the Music Performance end-of-year performance examination provided on the VCAA website.

### CRITERIA

These criteria are drawn from the VCAA Principles, procedures and guidelines for VCE Text Selection.

*Approved alternative works will*

- enable the requirements of the study design and end-of-year performance examination to be met
- allow the student to have the opportunity to demonstrate the highest level of performance in relation to the criteria for the award of grades
- provide excellence, that is the work will be an excellent example of the style and/or genre, and, as appropriate, be
  - representative of the styles listed in the relevant *Prescribed list*
  - representative of the categories on specific instrument lists
  - representative of new and established works
  - of an appropriate level and standard, that is the work will be
    - of appropriate technical standard with regard to the examination criteria
    - appropriate for the age and development of students and in that context reflect current standards and expectations
- meet authentication and duplication requirements, that is the work will
  - not be included in any other *Prescribed list* for VCE Music
  - meet community standards

A maximum of **two (2)** alternative works will be approved for one student's performance program.

Unpublished works including works composed by students may be submitted for approval.

Complete notation (TAB not acceptable) **and** a recording of the work, for example an audio CD or a MIDI file copied to CD should be provided with the application.

The following works will **not be** considered for performance by soloists

- Opera arias
- Folk Opera

## GUIDELINES

### For approval of an alternative work for group performance

#### *SECTION A (works listed by title and performer)*

The following statements may be used to describe reasons why a work has been approved for performance in the end-of-year group performance examination. This information will be used by the approval panel members to provide advice to the VCAA regarding the application.

The work

- will allow the student to meet the relevant criteria and guidelines for selection of works for the VCE Music Group performance *Prescribed list of arrangements* as outlined in the VCAA Principles, procedures and guidelines for VCE Text Selection
- can be allocated to a relevant style category within Section A
- as part of the proposed program, will allow the student to have the opportunity to demonstrate the highest level of performance in relation to the criteria for the award of grades.
- is similar in character to an existing work on the list but provides a new angle
- is of a suitable standard and musically interesting.

#### *Non- approved works*

The following statements may be used to describe reasons why a work has NOT been approved for performance in the end-of-year group performance examination

- Insufficient reason given in application
- Reason given is not acceptable, for example ..... prefer this song (where another work by the same performer is already on the list).
- No notation, chart or recording is provided to allow for assessment
- Only TAB is provided
- The work does not display a sufficient range of techniques.

The work

- is not approved because it does not allow the student to meet the criteria of the award of grades
- is too difficult for VCE standard
- is too long for inclusion in a suitably balanced performance program presented within time allowed for the examination
- is on another VCAA *Prescribed list* and the overlap is not permitted
- is not as musically interesting as other works on the list. It lacks contrast.
- does not allow other assessed performers in the group to demonstrate achievement against the criteria for the award of grades
- was deleted from a previous list as it was neither technically nor artistically demanding.

#### *SECTION B (notated group/ensemble works)*

The following statements may be used to describe reasons why a work has been approved for performance in the end-of-year examination. This information will be used by the approval panel members to provide advice to the VCAA regarding the application.

The work

- will allow the student to meet the relevant criteria and guidelines for selection of works for the VCE Music Performance Prescribed list of group works as outlined in the VCAA Principles, procedures and guidelines for VCE Text Selection
- is appropriate for performance by the student's group/ensemble
- as part of the proposed program, will allow the student to have the opportunity to demonstrate the highest level of performance in relation to the criteria for the award of grades
- is of a suitable standard and musically interesting
- expands the list, for example, is for an instrumental ensemble not identified in Section B
- is an appropriate re-arrangement of a work on the current list.

*Non- approved works*

The following statements may be used to describe reasons why a work has NOT been approved for performance in the end-of-year examination

- Insufficient reason given in application
- Reason given is not acceptable, for example ..... prefer this work (where another work by the same performer is already on the list).
- No notation, chart or recording is provided to allow for assessment
- Only TAB was provided
- The work does not display a sufficient range of techniques.

The work

- is not approved because it does not allow the student to meet the criteria of the award of grades
- is too difficult for VCE standard
- is too long for inclusion in a suitably balanced group performance program presented within time allowed for the examination
- is on another VCAA Prescribed list and the overlap is not permitted
- is not as musically interesting as other works on the list. It lacks contrast
- was deleted from a previous list as it was neither technically nor artistically demanding
- is not an appropriate re-arrangement of a work on the current list, for example an arrangement for 2 parts of a work originally scored in 4 parts where significant aspects of the original are no longer evident.

**For approval of an alternative work for solo performance**

*Approved works (for instruments where a list exists)*

The following statements may be used to describe reasons why a work has been approved for performance in the end-of-year examination. This information will be used by the approval panel members to provide advice to the VCAA

The work

- will allow the student to meet the relevant criteria and guidelines for selection of works for the VCE Music Prescribed list of notated solo works as outlined in the VCAA Principles, procedures and guidelines for VCE Text Selection
- can be allocated to a relevant category within the Prescribed list
- as part of the proposed program, will allow the student to have the opportunity to demonstrate the highest level of performance in relation to the criteria for the award of grades.
- is a work in the following category ... post 1910 / unaccompanied / other.....
- substitutes for a unique work in the list that is no longer available to purchase
- is similar in character to an existing work on the list but explores/demonstrates a different technique/aspect of the style
- has a style/character that is not represented on the list
- expands the list
- is of a suitable standard and musically interesting.

*Other information which may be provided in relation to approved works*

- The movements specified for performance are..... or .....
- The accompaniment can be pianoforte or ..... but the program must contain at least .....(for example, one unaccompanied work)

*Non-approved works (for instruments where a list exists)*

The following statements may be used to describe reasons why a work has NOT been approved for performance in the end-of-year examination:

- Insufficient reason given in application
- Reason given is not acceptable, for example ..... use in another examination
- No notated music or an incomplete score or TAB is provided to allow for assessment.
- The instrument/work and/or repertoire does not display a sufficient range of techniques

The work

- is not approved because it does not allow the student to meet the criteria of the award of grades
- is too difficult for VCE standard
- is too long for inclusion in a suitably balanced program presented within time allowed for the examination
- is on another VCAA Prescribed list and the overlap is not permitted
- is not as musically interesting as other works on the list. It lacks contrast.
- was deleted from a previous list as it was neither technically nor artistically demanding
- does not encompass a wide enough range in relation to the overall range of the instrument
- has less musical variety than other works on the list
- is not sufficiently different from works by the same composer (& in the same style) that are on the list
- is not suitable as it requires improvisation and/or the style required is not clear
- includes improvisation and other techniques that are not relevant to the criteria for the award of grades