

## Creative Practice: Popular Music Live Audition Guidelines

Your performance must adhere to the following:

- You will be required to sing two original songs accompanying yourself on either the guitar or piano/keyboard. You must sing and play either guitar or piano/keyboard on all songs.
- A PA system, vocal microphone and piano will be available. Guitarists will need to bring their acoustic guitar (preferable) or electric guitar, lead and tuner.
- Perform **two original songs** that were written and composed by you during the last two years. Covers will not be accepted. Hint: Choose two contrasting songs, for example ones that employ different speeds or different rhythmic feels and/or contrasting lyric subjects and styles. The songs should demonstrate your proficiency and overall musicianship.

You will need to bring your **typed lyric sheets** and must adhere to the following:

- A4 paper and a simple chord chart for both of your songs.
- Choral changes and structure can be written or typed on your A4 typed lyric sheets.
- Chart every bar in the song and use headings such as "VERSE", "CHORUS" and "BRIDGE" or as appropriate at the start of each section.

### Instrumental technical skills

During the audition you will be asked to play the following on your primary instrument (piano or guitar):

- Scales – a range of common scales in different positions or registers on the instrument.
- Chords – a range of common chords in two or more inversions (for piano - using both hands), or two or more positions and inversions (for guitar).
- Chordal progression – the following 8 bar chordal progression in two or more different rhythmic feels and speeds/tempo as chosen by the audition panel.

|| D | G | Dmajor7 | Bminor7 | F# | G | A7 | D ||

You may be asked to play this progression with one of the panel playing with you.

You can voice the chords in different positions and include colour notes (for example added 7ths).

### **Aural Assessment**

You will be assessed on your ability to identify aurally a variety of:

- Simple scales – including major, mixolydian (major with flattened 7th) and natural minor.
- Melodies – a melody will be played to you and you will need to accurately sing it (pitch and rhythm).
- Chords – including major, minor, suspended, dominant 7th, minor 7th and major 7th chords.
- Identify a simple 4 to 6 bar triadic harmonic progression in a major or minor key.

### **Discussion**

There may be an opportunity for you to share with the audition panel your musical goals, aspirations and what has led you to apply for the BMus programme.