

## VCE Music Performance Units 3 & 4

### OVERVIEW

NCAT attracts talented music students who are committed to achieving their best, which provides an exciting learning environment in which all students are valued and challenged.

In this subject, students select a program of group and solo works representing a range of styles and diversity of character for performance.

They develop instrumental techniques that enable them to interpret the works and expressively shape their performances.

They develop an understanding of performance conventions they can use to enhance their performances. Students develop skills in unprepared performance, aural perception and comprehension, transcription, music theory and analysis.

Students choose whether they will present their end-of-year performance examination program as a soloist OR as a member of a group

This subject comprises three areas of study: Performance, Performance Technique and Musicianship.

In 'Performance', students develop knowledge and skills required to present musically engaging performances of music works. Students select a program of contrasting group and solo works that demonstrate a range of music styles, diversity of character and a range of technical, stylistic and interpretative demands.

In 'Performance Techniques', students develop knowledge and skills to achieve consistency and control of idiomatic instrumental and performance techniques in group and solo performances. Students practise a range of technical work and exercises selected to extend and improve command of instrumental and performance techniques. They develop an understanding of the relevance of technique to their performance of selected group and solo works. Students also systematically develop skills in unprepared performance, including improvisation and/or sight reading.

In 'Musicianship', students systematically develop music theory knowledge and skills in aural comprehension and analysis. They develop and refine their ability to identify, recognise, notate and transcribe short music excerpts, as well as to recreate short sections of music by singing, humming and/or playing. Students practise and refine their ability to notate music by hand. They develop an understanding of ways expressive elements of music can be interpreted in the performance of music works. They apply this knowledge to their analysis of ways in which Australian performers have interpreted a variety of works by Australian composers/songwriters that have been created after 1910.

On completion of this unit, students should be able to present an informed, accurate and expressive performance of a program of group and solo works; they

should be able to demonstrate performance techniques, technical work and exercises, and describe their relevance to the performance of selected group and/or solo works, and present an unprepared performance; and they should be able to identify, re-create, notate and transcribe short excerpts of music, and discuss the interpretation of expressive elements of music in pre-recorded works.

NCAT is equipped with state-of-the-art rehearsal room facilities, a recording studio, music classrooms with state-of-the-art music software, and a vast range of quality musical instruments and hardware available for student use.

## ASSESSMENT

In this subject, students present a live performance program as part of a group or as a soloist; they present a demonstration of performance techniques, technical work and technical exercises relevant to their development as an instrumentalist and their preparation of works; they present a performance of unprepared material (i.e. sight reading or improvisation); and they complete a test that includes aural, written and practical components. In Unit 4, the Performance Examination, and the Aural and Written Examination are externally assessed.

## SUBJECT PREREQUISITES

Entry into all NCAT music programs is by audition and interview.

There are no other prerequisites for entry to Units 1, 2 and 3 for VCE Music Performance.

Unit 3 is a prerequisite to Unit 4 in this study.

A high level of musicianship is required for direct entry into VCE Music Performance Units 3 & 4 at NCAT.