

Stage 2 Music Explorations

Assessment Type 2: Explorations Folio of Explorations – Music Technology Focus

Purpose

Create four 1-minute musical works with commentary that will be submitted as a portfolio musical works for the Stage 2 Music Explorations Assessment Type 2.

Description of assessment

- Create four 1 minute recordings that demonstrates effective, imaginative and creative use of a range of compositional and production techniques including but not limited to EQ, Compression, Reverb, Delay, MIDI sequencing techniques
- Provide a stereo mix of the completed project in an MP3 audio format.
- Provide a 200 word commentary (or multimodal equivalent) defining and explaining: production processes; musical intent and stylistic influences; identification of multiple uses of compositional and production processes.

Outline of the task – key considerations

- Each project can be created using a combination of Digital Recording and MIDI sequenced components
- Experiment with variations of a specific production or composition techniques for each track
- The musical work should include a clear form/structure, repetition and development, rhythmic shifts between simple and compound time feels, as well as demonstrations of virtuosity.
- Listen carefully to your recordings and identify which recordings are musically effective and successfully highlight a range of production processes.
- Combine a number of these recordings into a sensible 1 minute musical structure. You may use cut and paste techniques or re-record to assemble these musical ideas.
- Carefully balance the track volumes so as to avoid distortion and export the finished project as an MP3 file.

Evidence of your Learning

To demonstrate evidence of your learning in these tasks, consider the following:

Understanding of Music

Development of knowledge and understanding of musical elements

- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the techniques, processes and musical elements used in the projects, including aural analysis of recording and audio mixing techniques.

Expression of musical ideas

- Use appropriate musical and technical terminology to demonstrate your musical understanding.

Exploring and Experimenting with Music

Application of knowledge and understanding of musical elements

- Display effective combination of theoretical concepts and musical ideas to achieve musical goals (e.g. do the production processes sound authentic, appropriate and musically satisfying)

Exploration of and experimentation with musical styles, influences, techniques, and/or production.

- Demonstrate artistic expression and creativity (musical flair) in the development of musical ideas, structure and contrast. (e.g. use of accents, dynamics, a range of simple, compound and flam techniques)

Synthesis of findings from exploration of and experimentation with music.

- Apply a range of techniques for recording, editing, and processing through the appropriate use of audio production processes and effects.

Responding to Music

Analysis and discussion of musical works.

- Discuss the musical intentions for each work, analyse musical and production influences and key production and musical features.