MSSF Graduate Program in Piano

Master of Art in Music Performance & Interpretation

Repertoire Guidelines

Rev. May 2024

❖ General Guidelines

➢ One selection from each style period must be included in the audition repertoire.

The style periods include Baroque, Classical, 19th century, and Modern. The detailed explanations below will provide clarification as to which musical works are permissible in the candidate’s audition repertoire.

➢ The candidate may list more than the minimum required works, as long as the guideline above is adhered to. In this case, the jury reserves the right to choose the specific selection for the style period in question.

➢ Some composers’ output span more than one stylistic period. The applicant may not choose more than one selection from the same composer, even if the musical works in question are from different stylistic periods.
➢ If a set of variations is chosen from one stylistic period, then the applicant may not choose a set of variations from another time period. Sonatas are exempt from this requirement.

➢ The general audition repertoire must include a minimum of 60 minutes of music, including repeats.

❖ Audition Repertoire

❖ One of the following selections from the Baroque Period, denoted by arrow markings:

➢ Any Prelude & Fugue from Das Wohltemperierte Clavier by J.S. Bach (BWV 846-893). Preludes and fugues must be from the same BWV number.

➢ Any complete keyboard dance suite by J.S. Bach: French Suites, English Suites, Partitas, Overture in the French Style, BWV 831

➢ Any two of the 555 binary-form, single-movement solo keyboard sonatas by D. Scarlatti. If the candidate selects this option, two Scarlatti sonatas are required

➢ The Capriccio in F Major (HWV 481) and the Capriccio in G Minor (HWV 483) by G.F. Händel

❖ One of the following selections from the Classical Period, denoted by arrow markings:

➢ Any of the 18 solo piano sonatas by W.A. Mozart (K. 279-576)

➢ Any of the 32 solo piano sonatas by L.v. Beethoven with opus numbers (Opus 2-111)

➢ Any of the following variations by L.v. Beethoven

  ■ Fifteen Variations and Fugue on an Original Theme, Opus 35 (“Eroica Variations”)
- Thirty-two Variations in C Minor on an Original Theme, WoO 80
- Thirty-three Variations on a waltz by Diabelli, Opus 120

➢ Six Bagatelles, Opus 126 by L.v. Beethoven
➢ Any of the 62 solo piano sonatas by F. Haydn
➢ Any of the 11 complete solo piano sonatas by F. Schubert (D. 537-960)

❖ One of the following selections from the 19th Century, denoted by arrow markings:

➢ Any of the following works by F. Schubert: Fantasy in C Major, “Wanderer Fantasy” (D. 760), Six Moments Musicaux (D. 780), a complete collection of Impromptus or short piano pieces from D. 899, 935, 946
➢ Any of the following works by F. Mendelssohn: a complete sonata, Variations Sérieuses (Opus 54)
➢ Any of the following works by F. Chopin: complete sonatas, ballades, a set of mazurkas, polonaises, 24 Préludes (Opus 28), scherzi, Andante Spianato in G Major (Opus 22), Fantasie in F Minor (Opus 49), Barcarolle in F-sharp Major (Opus 60)
➢ Any of the following works by R. Schumann: Variations on the name “Abegg” (Opus 1), Papillons (Opus 2), Davidsbündlertänze (Opus 6), Carnaval (Opus 9), Fantasiestücke (Opus 12), Études Symphonique (Opus 13), Faschingsschwank aus Wien (Opus 26), a complete sonata
➢ Any of the following works by F. Liszt: a transcription/concert paraphrase, Sonata in B Minor (S. 178), any of the 4 Mephisto Waltzes, Harmonies poétiques et religieuses (S. 154), one set (entire year) from Années de pèlerinage, any of the 19 Hungarian Rhapsodies (S. 244)
➢ **Any** of the following works by J. Brahms: a complete sonata, *Variations and Fugue on a Theme by Handel (Opus 24)*, one book from *Variations on a Theme by Paganini (Opus 35)*, 2 *Rhapsodies (Opus 79)*, any complete collection of short piano pieces from Opus 116-119

➢ A substantial work by S. Rachmaninov or A. Scriabin. Works in this category must be in the romantic style. If the applicant selects this option, the work must be approved by the jury in advance.

➢ A substantial work in the French Impressionist style by C. Debussy or M. Ravel. If the applicant selects this option, the work must be approved by the jury in advance.

➢ A substantial work by a Spanish composer (I. Albeniz, E. Granados, or M de Falla). If the applicant selects this option, the work must be approved by the jury in advance.

❖ **One** work from the 20th or 21st Century, in a modernist (non-Romantic, French Impressionist, or Spanish) style. The work must be composed and published after 1900.

➢ If the work is significantly intricate and/or was composed in the 21st century, then the applicant may perform the work with the musical score during the audition. This must be discussed with and approved by the jury in advance - before the candidate’s live audition.