

# AUDITION GUIDE

BA (Hons) Music (Jazz)

BA (Hons) Music (Jazz with Foundation Year)



Your audition will last approximately 30 minutes.

## Performers

1. You may choose one of the following two options
  - Perform two Jazz standards (with the ensemble) chosen from the repertoire list (see below), demonstrating your skills in Jazz improvisation and your ability to play with an ensemble.
  - Perform one Jazz standard (with the ensemble) from the repertoire list (see below) and one solo piece. The solo piece must represent your current strengths on your chosen instrument. Original compositions or improvisations are acceptable. **The solo piece must not be performed with a play along.**
2. You will be asked to improvise over a given chord progression at sight in an ensemble setting.
3. You will be asked to sight read a short piece of music which will be given to you on the day.
4. You may be asked for scales/technical exercises as appropriate to your instrument and level.
5. You will have a short interview, where we will explore your general musical knowledge and interests.

## Composers

1. You will have a structured interview based on your portfolio of compositions (you need to bring scores and any recordings if appropriate). The portfolio should consist of at least two contrasting compositions (or part thereof) - maximum length 10 minutes in total.
2. You will be asked to perform one Jazz standard chosen from the repertoire list (see below), demonstrating your skills in Jazz improvisation and your ability to play with an ensemble.
3. You will be asked to improvise over a given chord progression at sight in an ensemble setting.
4. You may be asked for scales/technical exercises as appropriate to your instrument and level.

## Repertoire list

- A Child Is Born Thad Jones
- All The Things You Are Kern/Hammerstein
- Autumn Leaves Kosma/Mercer
- Beautiful Love Young/King/Alstyne/Gillespie
- Blue Bossa Kenny Dorham
- Just Friends Lewis/Klemmer
- Ladybird Tadd Dameron
- Night & Day Cole Porter
- Satin Doll Ellington/Strayhorn/Mercer
- Softly As In a Morning Sunrise Hammerstein/Romberg

## FAQs

### 1. Do I have to provide my own ensemble for the audition?

No – the conservatoire will provide the rhythm section as appropriate.

### 2. Will warm-up time be provided prior to my audition?

Yes. You will be scheduled for 30 minutes warm-up time before your audition.

### 3. Will I be able to warm up with the ensemble?

No - there is a short amount of time allocated in each audition to communicate common instructions to the ensemble. The band is experienced and will be quick to understand any instructions. However, the panel are looking to see you perform in an organic setting, allowing the music to unfold naturally.

### 4. What will my structured interview involve? (Composers)

It will involve discussing your compositions/songs in terms of the creative and compositional process as well as your influences and direction.

## Entry Requirements (2019 entry)

### BA (Hons) Music (Jazz)

#### Academic Entry Requirements:

- 96 UCAS tariff points from level 3 studies or equivalent, which normally include A Level Music or a BTEC Extended Diploma in a Music-related subject.
- A minimum of three GCSEs including English Language at Grade C / Grade 4 or above or equivalent international qualification, eg IELTS 6.0 (5.5 in each component).

#### Other entry requirements:

##### a. Performance standard (assessed at audition)

- Performers are expected to demonstrate at audition a playing/singing standard of Grade 8 (commensurate with ABRSM, London College of Music, Trinity College, Rock School (as appropriate for the pathway)).
- Composers/songwriters are expected to demonstrate at audition a playing/singing standard of Grade 6 (commensurate with ABRSM, London College of Music, Trinity College, Rock School (as appropriate for the pathway)).

##### b. Musical theory standard (assessed at audition)

- Applicants' understanding of applied music theory will be assessed at audition where they will be asked questions about the theoretical elements of the pieces they have played to ensure that they are suitable for the course.

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- A minimum of three GCSEs including English Language at Grade C / Grade 4 or above or equivalent international qualification, eg IELTS 6.0 (5.5 in each component).

### Other entry requirements:

#### a. Performance standard (assessed at audition)

- Applicants are expected to demonstrate at audition a playing/singing standard of Grade 6 (commensurate with ABRSM, London College of Music, Trinity College, Rock School (as appropriate for the pathway)).

#### b. Musical theory standard (assessed at audition)

- Applicants' understanding of applied music theory will be assessed at audition where they will be asked questions about the theoretical elements of the pieces they have played to ensure that they are suitable for the course and to identify those applicants who need to take a Theory module at Level 3.