Piano Exam Pieces

ABRSM Grade 8

Selected from the 2023 & 2024 syllabus

Name	
Date of exam	

Contents page LIST A J. S. Bach Prelude and Fugue in B flat, BWV 866 3 W. A. Mozart Allegro: first movement from Sonata in F, K. 332 8 Franz Schubert Moment musical in C sharp minor: No. 4 from Moments musicaux, D. 780 17 LIST B Samuel Coleridge-Taylor Impromptu in B minor: No. 2 from Two Impromptus 24 Louise Farrenc Étude in D flat, Op. 41 No. 5 30 P. I. Tchaikovsky Juin: Barcarolle: No. 6 from Les saisons, Op. 37b 35 LIST C Isaac Albéniz Rumores de La Caleta (Malagueña): No. 6 from Recuerdos de viaje, Op. 71 1 40 Claude Debussy Arabesque No. 2: from Deux arabesques, L. 66 44 J. P. Johnson Over the Bars 52 Editor for ABRSM: Richard Jones

The pieces listed above are just a selection of those on the syllabus that you can choose for your exam; the other options are listed on page 2.

Whether you are taking an ABRSM Practical or Performance Grade, pieces are at the heart of your exam; after all, playing an instrument is all about exploring, performing, and learning through repertoire.

While this book contains nine pieces in a range of styles, the full syllabus has a wealth of other exciting repertoire that we encourage you to explore – to find pieces that really inspire you, that you connect with musically and will enjoy learning, and that will allow you to perform to your very best. You can pick a mixture of pieces from this book and the wider lists if you like – you just need to have one piece from each list, A, B and C.

If you are taking a **Performance Grade**, you also need to prepare a fourth piece which is entirely your own choice. Here you have even more freedom to choose music that really speaks to you, that you want to communicate to others, and that successfully completes your programme. It can be from the syllabus lists, or somewhere else entirely. Just be sure to check the 'Selecting Repertoire' section of the Performance Grades syllabus for important requirements and options for the own-choice piece (like standard and minimum length) and the programme of four pieces overall. Finally, you need to decide what order to play your pieces in and how you, the performer, will take your audience from the very first to the very last note, including moving from one piece to another, so that the performance forms a complete musical journey.

The separate syllabuses are available at www.abrsm.org. Whether taking a Practical or Performance Grade, enjoy exploring the possibilities on offer!