

Year 11 Autumn Term

Area of Study 3

Popular Music - informal learning

Using either a recording or a score (or a combination of the two), prepare a solo or ensemble performance of a song from a musical. Be ready to perform to the group and to identify major structural sections (introduction, verse, chorus, middle 8, coda etc).

Vocal scores and song books can be found in the Instrumental Teaching Room (let us know if you want to borrow something); lots of recordings are available online; some CD's and DVD's are available from the Music Office.

Suggested repertoire:

The Music Man; Guys and Dolls; Oklahoma!; The Boy Friend; Annie; Carousel; Rocky Horror Show; Les Miserables; My Fair Lady; West Side Story; Joseph; almost anything by Irving Berlin; Cole Porter; Rogers and Hart; Rogers and Hammerstein; Kurt Weill; Stephen Sondheim; Marvin Hamlisch.....

Alternatively, use score/tabs/chord symbols/recordings to prepare a cover version of a classic Britpop number. You might try songs by The Beatles, The Kinks. Oasis, Blur, Stone Roses...

Listen first and see what appeals to you!

Year 11 Spring Term

Area of Study 2

Experimental Music

Experiment to discover some strange new sounds. You could try using unorthodox techniques on standard instruments, record a sound and transform it or explore an unusual or unlikely sound source. You must be able to produce the sounds reliably and control them to some extent – perhaps changing their pitch, duration or timbre. Create the opening of a solo piece....

For inspiration, watch a young John Cage perform 'Water Walk' on YouTube.

Year 11 Summer Term

African Music and Fusions Area of Study 4

Listen to two or three recordings by **Ladysmith Black Mambazo**. Identify and describe any features that the pieces have in common with the African songs we have sung in class. You could start by looking at **structure, melody** and **harmony**.

Watch 'Classic Albums - Graceland' (available on loan from the Music Department) and see how Paul Simon brings together the music of sub-Saharan Africa and western pop/rock. Do you find this fusion successful?

Extension work:

Listen to or watch a solo recording of Toumani Diabate playing kora - there's plenty on You Tube. Compare this with a recording of the Symmetric Orchestra - *Boulevard de l'indépendance*, for example. Can you recognise and identify the different elements in the fusion?