

ENCORE

SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE

24 February 2025



Performances, compositions and musicology by HSC Music students.

Excellence from the 2024 Higher School Certificate





Program

Part 1

Liam Nicolson The Scots School Albury
Wiradjuri Country
Bagpipes *Slip Jig and Waltz*

This Celtic music piece holds a special place in Liam's heart. An exhilarating composition, it presents a delightful challenge, combining intricate stylistic shifts, finger dexterity, and dynamic tempo changes. A joy to perform!

Emily Broomhead Conservatorium High School
Gadigal Country
Cello *Shostakovich Cello Sonata in D Movement 2*

Shostakovich's *Cello Sonata in D Movement 2* is typical of his tumultuous and emotional compositional style, reflective of his political and cultural context. He wrote it when he fell in love and had an affair with a young woman at the Leningrad festival, and he premiered the piece in late 1934 with his close friend, cellist Viktor Kubatsky.

Morgan Owen and James Woo Sydney Grammar School
Gadigal Country
Marimba and Vibraphone *Losa*

Losa by Emmanuel Sejourne is inspired by Spanish Flamenco music. This unique duo for vibraphone and marimba will be well received by performers and audiences alike. Up-tempo, lively syncopated dance-like rhythms keep this one moving – with both players utilising 4 mallets.

Bryce Wallace Saint John Paul College
Gumbaynggirr Country
Voice *Greatest Love of All*

Greatest Love of All by Whitney Houston is an empowering ballad about self-love and personal strength. The song emphasises the importance of believing in oneself and finding inner peace, while also reflecting on the idea that self-respect and self-acceptance are the greatest forms of love.

Bettina Minogue Conservatorium High School
Gadigal Country
Composer/Violin *L-iskadenza*

The piece seeks to evoke a sense of discomfort and impending disaster. Even in moments of motion, something is not quite right.





Bridget Ponman Hunter School of the Performing Arts
Awabakal Country

Voice *Running Up That Hill*

An emotional and intimate approach to the hit 1985 pop song, originally performed by Kate Bush. This stripped back version contains only piano and string accompaniment to a hybrid of classical and contemporary vocal style.

Ashton Parris Pennant Hills High School
Darug Country

Tuba *Allegro Sonata*

Allegro Sonata is an exciting work for tuba and piano, inspired by Schoenberg's first chamber symphony. The piece shows the tuba in a unique light: a virtuosic instrument quickly going between high floating lines into the treble clef, and an instrument laying down a deep foundation to the piano's flowing lines and everything in between.



Spencer Oxnam Newtown High School of the Performing Arts
Gadigal Country

Viola *William Walton Viola Concerto Movement 1*

Walton's *Viola Concerto*, composed in 1929, is widely accepted to be the greatest concerto written for viola. The concerto explores a wide range of the instrument's tone colour, taking advantage of its mellow qualities.

Christian Tan Knox Grammar School
Gadigal Country

Composer/Voice *On Love: A Lesson In Three Chapters*

On Love is a lesson learned in three chapters for an unaccompanied SATB vocal ensemble, inspired by the close harmonies of Australian a cappella ensemble The Idea of North. Three musically distinct sections integrate different period features of SATB vocal music and jazz — both in the traditional treatment of close harmony and musical style, with more contemporary disco and pop-infused genre elements subtly referenced in the second chapter.



Bonna Yoon Queenwood
Gamaragal Country

Bassoon *Vivaldi Bassoon Concerto in E minor, RV 484: I. Allegro poco*

Antonio Vivaldi's *Bassoon Concerto in E Minor, RV 484* captivating first movement, *Allegro poco*, showcases the bassoon's versatility; intertwining its rich, expressive timbre with vibrant



orchestral textures. The dynamic dialogue between the soloist and the ensemble creates a dramatic and engaging atmosphere, making it a standout example of Vivaldi's Baroque mastery.

Jayda Ciocci Wollongong High School of the Performing Arts
Dharawal Country
Voice *Blue Skies*

Blue Skies is a timeless jazz standard brought to life by Ella Fitzgerald's iconic interpretation. This piece showcases a blend of optimism and resilience, with its upbeat melody and masterful scat singing celebrating the joy of clear skies after a storm.

INTERVAL

Part 2



Flynn Poppleton Newtown High School of the Performing Arts
Gadigal Country
Composer/Trumpet *The Quartessense*

The Quartessense, written for two trumpets and two flugelhorns, explores interweaving melodies between all the instruments. The ensemble tackles a development section full of twists and turns before finally returning to its roots.

Alexander Billett Riverstone High School
Darug Country
Voice *Social Call*

Originally composed by Gigi Gryce, Alexander's performance of *Social Call* takes on Benny Benack's newer conversational duet cover of the song with renowned jazz bebop vocalist Veronica Swift. The song features original vocalese-style solos that expand the story.

Tengis Meiklejohn Molong Central School
Wiradjuri Country
Morin Khuur *Concerto for Morin Khuur*

Concerto for Morin Khuur is a work written for Morin Khuur and orchestra written by the late Zunduin Khangal. This composition aims to demonstrate the abilities and capabilities of both the Morin Khuur and the performer themselves, drawing upon Mongolian music traditions.





Jono Amoils Moriah College
Gadigal Country
Composer *Vejo Konfliktas*

Vejo Konfliktas (“battle of the winds” in Lithuanian) is a dynamic saxophone quartet that explores the concept of conflict and resolution through contrasting textures, rhythmic interplay, and harmonic tension. Inspired by the volatile nature of wind, the piece weaves between moments of turbulence and calm, showcasing the expressive capabilities of the saxophone ensemble.

Jaclyn Wynne Coffs Harbour Senior College
Gumbaynggirr Country
Voice *Twisted*

A whimsical jazz piece that relates an account of the protagonist’s insanity, a satire of psychoanalysis.



William Louis Blue Mountains Grammar School
Darug and Gundungurra Country
Composer/Electric guitar *José Feng Shui*

This composition is a mixture of many unique Japanese jazz-fusion elements. These include voice-like guitar melodies, bright slap bass, powerful, intricate drum patterns, and lush clustered electric piano chords. Influenced primarily by T-square and Casiopea, the piece aims to take the listener on a journey, each instrument having soloistic and supporting roles to create a balanced musical conversation.

Jayde Wang North Sydney Girls High School
Gamaragal Country
Piano *Feux d’artifice from Préludes, Book II No.12*

Feux d’artifice from Préludes, Book II No.12 is the final work concluding Claude Debussy’s 24 Preludes, a quasi-programmatic composition depicting the grand firework display on Bastille Day. His experimentation with untraditional harmonic progressions, non-chordal tones, and whole-tone scales obscure the line between nature and imagination, painting a scene with the music.



Sophia Markovic St Catherine’s School
Bidjigal and Gadigal Country
Voice *The Girl In 14G*

The Girl in 14G is a humorous and lighthearted song that follows a young woman as she moves into her first apartment. She initially enjoys the peace and quiet but soon finds herself caught between the noisy habits of her neighbors — an opera singer and a jazz enthusiast.



Ramon Fattahi Moein and **Raya Fattahi Moein**

Chatswood High School
Gamaragal Country

Flute and Saxophone *Trio for Flute, Alto Saxophone and Piano, Movement 3.*

The third movement of *Trio for Flute, Alto Saxophone and Piano* by Russell Peterson is a vibrant and engaging conclusion showcasing the technical prowess and expressive potential of each instrument. The piece is characterised by its blend of lyrical and rhythmic elements, leaving a lasting impression on the listener through its complexity and energy.

Emilio Maldonado Marist Catholic College Penshurst
Bidjigal Country

Guitar *Come On (Let the Good Times Roll)*

Come On (Let the Good Times Roll) is a powerful rock piece composed by legendary guitarist Jimi Hendrix. This piece utilises a variety of expressive techniques for guitar which aim to show the listeners the instrument's range.

Musicology

Musicology is the study of music theory, presented either in essay form (for Music 2 and Music Extension) or as a viva voce presentation (for Music 1). In the essay format, students explore one or more aspects of music in depth, demonstrating a deep understanding of the topic studied. The Musicology viva voce, on the other hand, is an interactive discussion between the examiner and candidate, where the candidate must showcase their comprehension of the concepts and stylistic features of the music they have studied.

The following students presented exemplary musicology projects in the 2024 HSC.

Aaliyah Abaza William Clarke College
Darug Country

Daniel Anderson Kincumber High School
Darkinjung Country

Oscar Badman Sydney Secondary College Blackwattle Bay Campus
Gadigal and Wangal Country

Priya Bains Meriden School
Wangal Country

Lola Berriman St John's College Woodlawn
Bundjalung Country

James Birbas Waverley College
Gadigal Country

Luke Cusack St John the Evangelist Catholic Highschool Nowra
Yuin Country

Paddy Daly Marist Catholic College Penshurst
Bidjigal Country

Alexander Magnus Dunn Knox Grammar School
Gadigal Country

Banjo Evans Mater Maria Catholic College
Gamaragal Country

Lillian Glover Smiths Hill High School
Dharawal Country

Advaith Ilavajhala Sydney Boys High School
Gadigal Country

Talia Angelina Jee Meriden School
Wangal Country

Joshua Khoury St Patrick's Marist College, Dundas
Darug Country

Cassidy Lauguico Penrith High School
Darug Country

Alex Leerson St John the Evangelist Catholic High School Nowra
Yuin Country

Noah Lewis Killarney Heights High School
Darug Country

Jerra Macdonald Hunter School of Performing Arts
Awabakal Country

Lachlan Maddocks Belmont High School
Awabakal Country

Charlie McGuire Ku-ring-gai High School
Darug Country

Lucius Mortensen Gacon Katoomba High
Darug and Gundungurra Country

Nidhi Nellore Meriden School
Wangal Country

Audrey O'Donnell-Parr Murwillumbah Learning Community High School
Bundjalung Country

Aiken Ord Newtown High School of the Performing Arts
Gadigal Country

Caden Penny Xavier Catholic College
Bundjalung Country

Hudson Potter St Joseph's Regional College
Birpai Country

Yiming Qu James Ruse Agricultural High School
Burramattagal Country

Matthias Scanlan Macquarie College
Awabakal Country

Elsie Starling Meriden School
Wangal Country

Joshua Stephanidis St John the Evangelist Catholic High School Nowra
Yuin Country

Grace Stickles Willoughby Girls High School
Gamaragal Country

Jordan Tadich Parramatta High School
Darug Country

Kevin Tai Lindfield Learning Village
Kuringgai Country

Tara Taylor Ascham School
Gadigal Country

Gen Weakley Jordan Canterbury Girls High School
Darug Country

Stanley Wills St Andrew's Cathedral School
Gadigal Country



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