

PIANO SAMPLE BOOKLET

A selection of pieces plus exercises for Trinity College London exams 2021–2023

SCIARRA

THUNTAWECH

COUPERIN

MIFSUD

LYNCH

NOT FOR SALE

Trinity's Piano Syllabus 2021-2023

Our 2021-2023 Piano syllabus offers the choice and flexibility to allow pianists to play to their strengths, giving them an even wider range of repertoire to choose from.

Extensive repertoire

Choose from our largest repertoire lists to date, which include 35 pieces per grade, a range of international composers and a selection of popular pieces from the 2018-2020 syllabus.

Re-imagined books

There are now a minimum of 12 pieces in your graded exam book, with 21 pieces in the Extended Edition – nine in an additional ebook. Both editions include detailed performance notes, while the Extended Edition also includes scales, arpeggios and downloadable audio.

Young Composers' Competition

Aspiring composers can take inspiration from the inclusion of one new piece per grade written by the winners of our Young Composers' Competition.

Flexible syllabus

Personalise your exam – you can choose to perform your own original composition, a duet at Initial to Grade 3 and a selection of supporting tests.

Online support

A range of free, online support resources, produced with professional musicians and educators, help develop your performance skills and musical knowledge.

Trinity Play It Forward

Trinity is proud to be featuring the compositions of nine young international composers, one at each grade, throughout the Piano Syllabus 2021-2023. To celebrate these remarkable new pieces, Trinity is inviting pianists to download a free book of three of these compositions and share videos of performances from all over the world under the hashtag #TrinityPlayItForward.

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The exam at a glance

About the exam

PIECES 66 marks Three pieces, each worth 22 marks.



A combination of two tests from sight reading, aural, improvisation and musical knowledge, depending on grade and candidate choice.

Pieces

Candidates can demonstrate their individual musical identity by choosing three pieces from our repertoire lists, which offer a great variety of styles and genres. These options include playing a duet (Initial to Grade 3) and an own composition (all grades). Pieces are chosen from a single list up to Grade 5, providing maximum flexibility of choice, and divided into two groups at Grades 6-8, with group A pieces focusing on technical dexterity and group B on interpretational techniques.

Technical work

This section of the exam supports the development of technical skills by assessing candidates' performance in a range of technical work requirements. Scales and arpeggios help to develop technical focus, strength and agility, as well as harmonic and melodic skills. Our exercises have been designed to demonstrate key areas of techniques in performance.

Supporting tests

Trinity's supporting tests encourage the development of the broader musical skills of sight reading, aural, improvisation and musical knowledge. The choice allows candidates to demonstrate their own musical skills in different ways.

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Exam structure and mark scheme

Initial-Grade 5	Maximum marks	Grades 6-8	Maximum marks
PIECE 1	2	2 PIECE 1	22
PIECE 2	2	2 PIECE 2	22
PIECE 3	2	2 PIECE 3	22
TECHNICAL WORK	14	4 TECHNICAL WORK	14
Scales & arpeggiosExercises		Scales & arpeggiosExercises	
Any TWO of the following:	2	SUPPORTING TEST 1Sight reading	10
Sight readingAural			
ImprovisationMusical knowledge		SUPPORTING TEST 2	10
		ONE of the following: Aural	
		Improvisation	
TOTAL	10	0 TOTAL	100

Graded exam books

Piano Exam Pieces Plus Exercises 2021-2023 | Extended Edition

The new Extended Edition of Trinity's graded exam books for piano provides the candidate with a much greater choice of repertoire than ever before, with 12 pieces in the book and nine more in a downloadable ebook. Each book also includes new technical work exercises.

Performance notes are included for all 21 pieces, and duets are included up to Grade 3. For the first time, the scales and arpeggios for the grade are included in the graded exam book (Extended Edition only). Downloadable demo recordings are included along with separate part recordings for the duets, although separate CDs are also available to purchase.

Piano Exam Pieces Plus Exercises 2021-2023

Each book contains 12 pieces from across a range of styles and periods, along with new technical work exercises. Performance notes are included for all 12 pieces in the book, and duets are included up to Grade 3. Separate CDs are available to purchase, containing demo recordings of all pieces and exercises in the Extended Edition, along with separate part recordings for the duets.



Initial

PRAETORIUS	Old German Dance
REINAGLE	Allegretto (no. 9 from 24 Short and Easy Pieces, op. 1)
MÜLLER, ed. WILD	Summer Swing
VOGEL	March Time
PAPP	The Giant
WILD	Into the Distance
DAXBÖCK	Boogie
YANDELL	Echo Dance
GEROU	Please Stay, Chihuahua
WALKER	Merlin's Incantation
GRUBER	Kindergarten Blues
THUNTAWECH	Muay Thai (The Boxing Star)



BADINGS	Canon
BÉRA-TAGRINE	Conversation
CHARLTON	Tickery Tockery
DAXBÖCK ET AL.	Lullaby
HARRIS	Spies on a Mission
HEUMANN	Spanish Guitar Player
REINAGLE	Allegro (no. 4 from 24 Short and Easy Pieces, op. 1)
STAHL	Stick and Hat
STRECKE	The Waltz of the Toads



Grade 1

CLARKE	King William's March
HANDEL, ed. WILD	Passepied in C major, HWV 559
TÜRK	Arioso (from Klavierschule)
HOLLAND	Donkey Trot
NORTON	Walking Together
TERZIBASCHITSCH	Last Waltz
BOBER	Stealth Mode
YANDELL	Pirate Stomp
TANNER	The Croc That Swallowed a Clock
HAWTHORN & SUSCHITZKY	Space Walk Rag
HALL & DRAYTON	The Very Vicious Velociraptor
PITTARELLO	Viking Village

ebook repertoire

CHARLTON	Walking (and Talking)
CROSLAND	Hand in Hand
GRILL	I'm Happy
GRUBER	Jodler (Yodeler)
KIRKBY-MASON	Mango Walk
DIABELLI	Bagatelle
REINAGLE	Minuet (no. 10 from 24 Short and Easy Pieces, op. 1)
SCHEIN, arr. SNELL	Allemande
STRECKE	The Enchanted Garden



ВÖНМ	Minuet in G (from <i>Clavierbüchlein</i> für Anna Magdalena Bach)
HÄSSLER	Allegro in C
NEEFE	Canzonet
SZYMANOWSKA	Mazurka
HEUMANN	Island in the Sun
PROKSCH	FreuDich/Feelicitous
YANDELL	Fun Fair Blues
TANNER	Orpheus in His Underpants
DONKIN	The Penguin Parade
CROSLAND	Bendin' the Rules
GUMBLEY	'Nuff Said
SUKONTAPATIPARK	Floating Balloons

ebook repertoire

Persian Holiday
Almost a Canon
The Rowboat
Balletto
Shepherd's Melody
Poor Mouse
The Ballerina
The Marionettes
Rigaudon



Grade 3

COUPERIN	Les coucous bénévoles (The Benevolent Cuckoos)
HAYDN	Andante (3rd movt from Sonata in G major, Hob XVI:8)
DIABELLI	Rondino (no. 17 from <i>Melodious Exercises</i> , op. 149)
LOESCHHORN	Study in D minor (no. 40 from Studies for the Piano, op. 65)
GEDIKE	Sonatina
BARTÓK	The Highway Robber (from For Children, Sz. 42)
LEIBER & STOLLER, arr. P & S WEDGWOOD	Hound Dog
ILES	I'm Late!
DONKIN	An Autumn Leaf
LYNCH	nDcvr Agnt
TAN	The Night of the Sleepy Panda
TADMAN-ROBINS	Ballad

ebook repertoire

J & A BULLARD	Model T
COUPERIN, arr. SNELL	Le petit rien
CROSLAND	The Clown and the Ballerina
DONKIN	Badlands
GRAHAM	Between the Fingers
ROLLIN	Sunrise on the Matterhorn
D SCARLATTI	Sonata in G major
SCHMITZ	Tango-Prelude II
SCHÖNMEHL	Rain



Grade 4

FARNABY	Tower Hill
CIMAROSA	Sonata in A minor
KUHLAU	Allegretto (from Sonatina in G major, op. 55 no. 2)
LEMOINE	Étude no. 23 (from Études enfantines, op. 37)
R SCHUMANN	Sicilienne (no. 11 from <i>Album</i> for the Young, op. 68)
MAYKAPAR	Valse (no. 5 from <i>Biriulki</i> , op. 28)
TANNER	Forty Winks
CROSLAND	Lights in the Rearview
KNOWLES	Calypso
PETOT	Please Count
TANEVA	Balloons in the Air
MIFSUD	Remembrance

ebook repertoire

ARENS	Tango passionis
BADINGS	Ballo gaio
BERTINI	Study in E minor, op. 29 no. 14
BURGMÜLLER	Barcarolle, op. 100 no. 22
ELGAR	Andantino (1st movt from Sonatina)
GARDEL, arr. FARRINGTON	Por una cabeza
KIRNBERGER	Minuet in E major
MOORE	Waltz mystique
MOZART	Allegretto (from <i>The London Sketchbook</i> , K 15hh)



ANON., ed. LONG	Coranto (no. 21 from Fitzwilliam Virginal Book)
DUŠEK	Allegro (1st movt from Sonata XII in G major)
SCHUBERT	Valse sentimentale, op. 50 no. 13
BURGMÜLLER	Berceuse (no. 7 from 18 Characteristic Studies, op. 109)
TCHAIKOVSKY	Süße Träumerei (Sweet Reverie) (no. 21 from <i>Kinderalbum</i> , op. 39)
BEACH	Pantalon (from <i>Young People's Carnival</i> , op. 25)
McCABE	Sports Car
WEDGWOOD	Large Wave
GEROU	March of the Roman Legionaries
GOODWIN	Settle Down
PETOT	Typhoon
FOX	Walk in the Park

ebook repertoire

ALEXANDER	All Is Calm
ALWYN	There Sleeps Titania (from Midsummer Night)
BALCH	A Walk at Strumble Head
CAMIDGE	Scherzando (2nd movt from Sonata no. 1 in G major)
CORNICK	Blues for Beth
HAYDN	Andante in A major, Hob I:53/II
JÁRDÁNYI	Andantino (1st movt from Sonatina no. 2)
PROKSCH	And Now Let's Handel
PUSTILNIK	Circus Theme



Grade 6

COUPERIN	Allemande (from <i>L'art de toucher le clavecin</i>)
C P E BACH	Adagio (2nd movt from <i>Sonata</i> in <i>B minor</i> , H132, Wq 62/22)
HAYDN	Finale (3rd movt from <i>Sonata</i> in <i>C major</i> , Hob XVI:35)
FARRENC	Impromptu
KHACHATURIAN	Ivan Is Very Busy
BARTÓK	Stamping Dance (from Mikrokosmos, Sz. 107, vol 5)
CASELLA	Galop final (from 11 pezzi infantili)
DELLO JOIO	Prayer of the Matador (no. 2 from <i>Lyric Pieces for the Young</i>)
LE FLEMING	Lullaby for Oscar
WILKINSON	Jazzin' Grace
BÉRA-TAGRINE	Terminal 2
HUANG-HSU	Epilogue (5th movt from <i>Tāwāhi</i>)

ebook repertoire

J S BACH	Prelude in D minor, BWV 935
BENDA	Sonatina in Eb
BÉRA-TAGRINE	Mazurka
BYRD	Coranto (no. 218 from Fitzwilliam Virginal Book)
JONES	Giga in A minor
KARGANOV	Arabesque, op. 6 no. 4
RAMSKILL	Weaving a Spell
SCHMITZ	Progression I
WALSH & SHORE, arr. PODGORNOV	In Dreams (from The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring)



Grade 7

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J S BACH	Invention no. 12 in A major, BWV 783
HANDEL	Capriccio in G minor, HWV 483
HAYDN	Finale (3rd movt from Sonata in D major, Hob XVI:24)
MARTINES	Allegro (1st movt from Sonata in E major)
BULLARD	Prelude no. 8 (in G major)
HENSEL	Mélodie, op. 4 no. 2
FIBICH	Lento (no. 139 from Moods, Impressions and Souvenirs, op. 41)
MacDOWELL	Improvisation (no. 4 from <i>Twelve Virtuoso Studies</i> , op. 46)
POULENC	Assez modéré (no. 1 from <i>Trois</i> mouvements perpétuels)
LANE	Struttin' at the Waldorf (no. 3 from Three Little Bites at the Big Apple)
EARL	At Miss Florence's (homage to Robert Schumann)
BOTTERILL	Soho

ebook repertoire

CHANLER	Aftermath
EBERL	Allegro (1st movt from Sonate, op. 6)
HANDEL	Allegro (from <i>Suite no. 7</i> in <i>G minor</i> , HWV 432)
HARRIS	Study
MENDELSSOHN	No. 2 from <i>Kinderstück</i> e, op. 72
MOZART	Minuet in D major, K 355
PETER-HORAS	Sarah
SCHYTTE, ed. SNELL	Etude in A minor, op. 58 no. 6
TURINA	Fiesta (from <i>Miniatures</i>)



J S BACH	Prelude and Fugue in E major, BWV 854 (from <i>The Well-Tempered</i> <i>Clavier book 1</i>)
D SCARLATTI	Sonata in C, K 513, 'Pastorale'
KUHLAU	Rondo (2nd movt from <i>Sonatina</i> in <i>A major</i> , op. 59 no. 1)
CZERNY	Feodora (from Album élégant des dames pianistes, op. 804)
BARTÓK	No. 2 from <i>Six Dances in Bulgarian Rhythm</i> (from <i>Mikrokosmos</i> , Sz. 107, vol 6)
JANÁČEK	Nelze Domluvit! (Lost for Words!) (no. 6 from <i>On an Overgrown Path</i>)
GRANADOS	Andaluza (no. 5 from <i>Danzas españolas</i>)
BEACH	Scottish Legend (no. 1 from <i>Two Pieces</i> , op. 54)
JOPLIN	The Cascades
GERSHWIN	Prelude no. 2
DRING	Blue Air (from <i>Colour Suite</i>)
SCIARRA	Romance

ebook repertoire

<u> </u>	
J S BACH	Prelude in G major, BWV 902
BARTÓK	Allegretto (1st movt from Suite, op. 14)
BRAHMS	Intermezzo in B minor, op. 119 no. 1
DEBUSSY	Minstrels (from <i>Préludes</i> book 1)
HAYDN	Moderato (1st movt from <i>Sonata in G minor</i> , Hob XVI:44)
IRELAND	Elegy (from A Downland Suite)
MA & ZHANG N, arr. ZHANG Z	Remote Xianggelila
MOZART	Allegro (1st movt from <i>Sonata</i> in <i>Bb major</i> , K 570)
RAMEAU	Fanfarinette and La triomphante (from <i>Suite in A minor</i>)

Support and resources

Join us online to access a range of resources to support piano teaching and learning at trinitycollege.com/piano-resources

Discover digital content, including videos and articles from teachers and leading musicians, with advice and support on:

- Pieces, performance and technique
- Technical work
- Supporting tests

Supporting publications

Piano Scales & Arpeggios

Containing all the scales and arpeggios for Trinity Piano exams. Available as two books – Initial to Grade 5 and Grades 6–8.

Raise the Bar Piano

A collection of the most popular pieces from past Trinity syllabuses, accompanied by teaching notes. Each book contains an attractive selection of pieces to help pianists expand their repertoire and explore different styles and periods.

Sound at Sight Piano

Graded sight reading pieces to match Trinity's requirements for Initial to Grade 8.

Sample pieces – Performance notes

Initial: THUNTAWECH / Muay Thai

Muay Thai is a form of boxing and the repeating, descending left-hand notes which underpin the right-hand melody suggest the excitement and tension of a boxing match. Keep the dynamic level low at the beginning to add to the story of the music. The notes lie comfortably under the hands in a five-finger position; practise each hand separately to gain confidence in playing the left-hand and right-hand parts before trying them together.

Grade 3: LYNCH / nDcvr Agnt

The coded title of this piece and the direction to play it 'Moderately sneaky' will intrigue and inspire players. An air of mystery and suspense is created through the use of contrasting articulation (*staccato*, *legato* and accents), accidentals and chromatic grace notes, keyboard register (from very low bass to high treble), rests and dynamics.

The *staccato* piano opening suggests the undercover agent of the title sneaking along a secret alleyway, perhaps, or spying on someone in a darkened building.

Grade 4: MIFSUD / Remembrance

This attractive, highly expressive piece by Maltese composer Maria Mifsud has a nostalgic, reflective mood. Aim for a sweet, singing tone in the melody and don't be shy about bringing as much expression as possible through the dynamics and the *molto rit*. at bar 12. The direction *Con dolcezza* means with sweetness/gentleness and this should inform your approach throughout.

Grade 6: COUPERIN / Allemande

Couperin's L'art de toucher le clavecin ('The art of playing the harpsichord') is one of the most important didactic survivals from the Baroque period, providing information on ornaments, fingering and stylistic playing techniques. 'Allemande' translates as 'German dance', and this typical example has a lively character, with the constant semiquaver movement giving a constant energy to the music.

In L'art de toucher le clavecin, Couperin gives several detailed examples of how to substitute the fingers (ie swap from one finger to another while holding down a note), so it would be perfectly in keeping to try this here. If you haven't played or heard a harpsichord before, do try to have a listen to this piece (or another) performed on one, as Couperin would have done.

Grade 8: SCIARRA / Romance

It is no accident that 'Romance' by Italian composer Dario Sciarra is marked 'quasi notturno', for this deeply expressive piece shares many similarities with nocturnes by the master of the form, Fryderyk Chopin – from the lyrical cantabile melody to the undulating left-hand accompaniment and the more florid middle section. Listen to a selection of Chopin's nocturnes to give you a sense of the style and mood of this music and to help you shape its expression. Dolce e rubato is the direction at the beginning of the music, encouraging you to play with a sweet tone and some give-and-take in tempo (both elements found in Chopin's nocturnes).

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Sample pieces



Muay Thai

(The Boxing Star)

Mintra Thuntawech (b. 1989)









Grade 3 (extract)

nDcvr Agnt

Sandra Lynch (b. 1969)









Remembrance



Grade 6 (extract)

Allemande

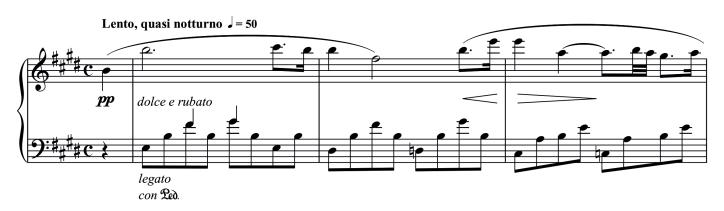
from L'art de toucher le clavecin



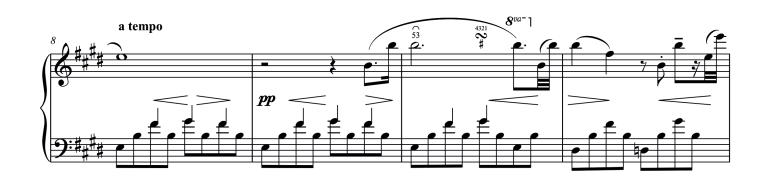
Grade 8 (extract)

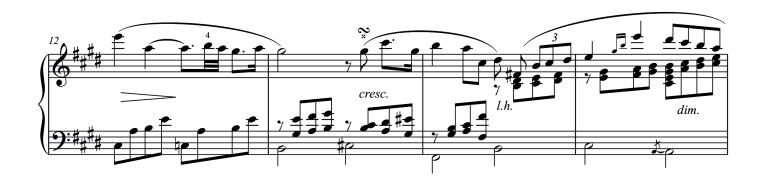
Romance

Dario Sciarra (b. 1990)









Exercises

The exercises featured in Trinity's graded exam books offer carefully graded short pieces in a range of attractive styles, designed to develop players' technical skills.

Initial

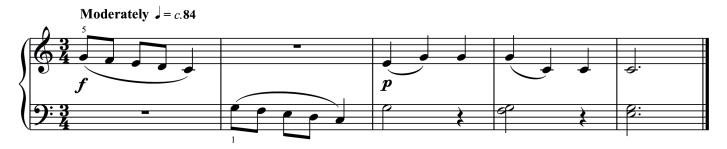
1a. Plain Sailing – tone, balance and voicing



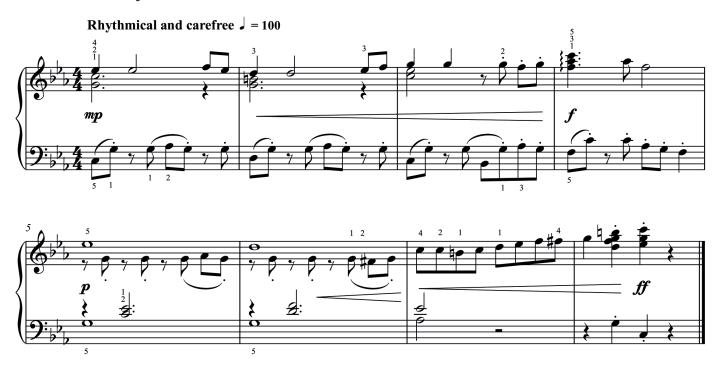
2a. Smoothie - co-ordination



3a. Down the Hill – finger & wrist strength and flexibility



1b. Dancing Shoes – tone, balance and voicing



3a. Village Hop – finger & wrist strength and flexibility



Certificate and theory exams

Trinity's certificate exams provide an alternative to graded music exams, focusing solely on performance. Structured as a mini-recital, candidates are given the choice and flexibility to put together a programme from a wide repertoire list and can include own-choice pieces and their own compositions. Certificate exams are available at Foundation, Intermediate and Advanced levels. Visit trinitycollege.com/music-certificates for full details.

Theory exams are available from Grade 1 to support learners to develop their understanding of the technical language of music. However, no theory qualifications or other prerequisites are required to enter graded or certificate exams at any level. Find more information about theory exams at **trinitycollege.com/theory**

Recognition and UCAS points

Trinity College London is an international exam board regulated by Ofqual (Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation) in England, CCEA Regulation in Northern Ireland and by Qualifications Wales. Various arrangements are in place with governmental education authorities worldwide.

In the UK, Grades 6-8 are eligible for UCAS (Universities and Colleges Admissions Service) points for those applying to colleges and universities.

Contact us

For further help you can contact the music support team at Trinity's central office at music@trinitycollege.com, or find the contact details of your local representative at trinitycollege.com/worldwide

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