

## Higher National Unit Specification

### General information for centres

**Unit title:** Music: Live Performance Skills 2

**Unit code:** DR2L 35

**Unit purpose:** This Unit is designed to give candidates an understanding of the practical aspects associated with ‘gigging’ and to develop the skills necessary for a successful live performance. Candidates will also expand their knowledge and understanding of appropriate technology used during live performances. The Unit is aimed at candidates who wish to develop a high level of proficiency in the live performance of music.

On completion of this Unit, the candidate should be able to:

- 1 Prepare and rehearse a programme of music for live performance.
- 2 Perform a programme of music live in a professional manner.

**Credit points and level:** 2 HN Credit at SCQF level 8: (16 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 8\*).

*\*SCQF credit points are used to allocate credit to qualifications in the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF). Each qualification in the Framework is allocated a number of SCQF credit points at an SCQF level. There are 12 SCQF levels, ranging from Access 1 to Doctorates.*

**Recommended prior knowledge and skills:** Access to this Unit will be at the discretion of the Centre. However, it would be beneficial if candidates had completed the Unit Music: Live Performance Skills 1 (DJ2A 34).

**Core skills:** There may be opportunities to gather evidence towards Core Skills in this Unit, although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components.

**Context for delivery:** If this Unit is delivered as part of a Group Award, it is recommended that it should be taught and assessed within the subject area of the Group Award to which it contributes.

For candidates undertaking the HND Music Group Award the assessment for this Unit may be combined with:

HN Code	Unit Title
DR11 35	Music First Study 2: Instrument
DR0M 35	Songwriting 2

The Group Award is primarily designed to provide candidates with technical or professional knowledge and skills related to a specific area. While all the Units can be assessed individually it is anticipated that integration will occur.

## **General information for centres (cont)**

**Unit title:** Music: Live Performance Skills 2

**Assessment:** The Unit will be assessed by two separate components demonstrating knowledge and understanding of rehearsing and performance. This will be achieved through:

- ◆ rehearsal of musical material
- ◆ musical performance

Evidence will take the form of video recording(s) and checklists.

## **Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards**

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The sections of the Unit stating the Outcomes, knowledge and/or skills, and evidence requirements are mandatory.

Where evidence for Outcomes is assessed on a sample basis, the whole of the content listed in the knowledge and/or skills section must be taught and available for assessment. Candidates should not know in advance the items on which they will be assessed and different items should be sampled on each assessment occasion.

### **Outcome 1**

Prepare and rehearse a programme of music for live performance

#### **Knowledge and/or skills**

- ◆ Identify pieces for performance
- ◆ Prepare pieces for rehearsal
- ◆ Attend designated rehearsals
- ◆ Create a well balanced sound during rehearsal
- ◆ Keep the ensemble focused on performance where appropriate
- ◆ Communicate with personnel relating to performance
- ◆ Health and Safety issues

#### **Evidence Requirements**

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and/or skills by showing that they can prepare and rehearse music in a satisfactory manner. Each candidate will be required to:

- ◆ prepare and submit at least two pieces for rehearsal, this will include suitable charts and lyrics for each member of the ensemble plus a pre-recorded version of the pieces to be rehearsed
- ◆ participate in rehearsals
- ◆ create a well-balanced sound during rehearsals
- ◆ submit a completed risk assessment for the rehearsal process

An assessor's observation checklist must be used to record the required evidence.

#### **Assessment guidelines**

For candidates undertaking the HND Music Group Award, the assessment of this Unit may be combined with Music First Study 2: Instrument (DR11 35) and Songwriting 2 (DR0M 35).

Candidates will be issued with limited rehearsal time appropriate to the completion of the set. The rehearsals could be recorded or video taped to show good working practice. It would not be necessary to record the entire rehearsal — snapshots of the ongoing process would suffice.

Should there be ambiguity regarding a candidate's response, oral questioning may be used to eliminate any doubt as to the candidate's understanding. The lecturer should note questions and responses.

## **Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)**

**Unit title:** Music: Live Performance Skills 2

### **Outcome 2**

Perform a programme of music live in a professional manner

#### **Knowledge and/or skills**

- ◆ Select balanced set from rehearsed material
- ◆ Soundcheck
- ◆ Create and maintain a well balanced stage sound
- ◆ Perform the gig in a professional manner

#### **Evidence Requirements**

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and/or skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ provide a list of requirements for sound engineer
- ◆ participate in soundcheck
- ◆ maintain tuning of the instruments during the performance where appropriate
- ◆ maintain good on-stage sound, from sound check to performance through consultation with the relevant personnel
- ◆ adhere to the set time as agreed with the promoter

The performance should be recorded on a video format and kept as evidence for external moderation. This should be supported by the list of requirements for the sound engineer and an appropriate observation checklist.

#### **Assessment guidelines**

Assessment of this Outcome will take the form of one or more live performances in a solo or group context. Appropriate checklists and video of performance should be used to record the evidence requirements.

For candidates undertaking the Group Award the assessment for this Unit may be combined with Songwriting 2 (DR0M 35) and Music First Study 2: Instrument (DR11 35).

Should there be ambiguity regarding a candidate's response, oral questioning may be used to eliminate any doubt as to the candidate's understanding. The lecturer should note questions and responses.

## **Administrative Information**

<b>Unit code:</b>	DR2L 35
<b>Unit title:</b>	Music: Live Performance Skills 2
<b>Superclass category:</b>	LH
<b>Date of publication:</b>	August 2005
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## **Higher National Unit specification: support notes**

### **Unit title:** Music: Live Performance Skills 2

This part of the Unit specification is offered as guidance. The support notes are not mandatory.

While the exact time allocated to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 80 hours.

### **Guidance on the content and context for this Unit**

The Unit is intended to prepare candidates for the day-to-day aspects of presenting a live performance. It is assumed that candidates will have some prior knowledge and an awareness of the process of structured rehearsals. The Unit emphasises the preparation and understanding of the need for a balanced programme for live performance. This takes into account the collating of the music and ensuring the set list is the correct length in terms of time allocated for the performance.

The candidate should also be aware of the requirements of all relevant personnel and of any notation or lyrics.

Candidates should pay close attention to particular musical parts and the arrangement of the material. Special attention should be taken to ensure the overall sound is well balanced. Finally candidates must ensure the material is ready for public presentation and the performance is carried out in a professional manner.

### **Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit**

This Unit has been developed as an optional Unit within the framework of the HND Music Group Award. The Unit will provide candidates with technical or professional knowledge and skills related to a specific area of music performance. While the Outcomes can be assessed individually it is anticipated that integration will occur. Those undertaking the Group Award may find opportunities for integration with Songwriting 2 (DR0M 35), Music First Study 2: Composition (DR10 35), Music First Study 2: Instrument (DR11 35).

The assessment will take place during the live performance when the candidates have successfully rehearsed the material.

### **Open learning**

This Unit could be delivered by open learning with suitable support material. The candidate would have to provide written evidence of Outcome 1, with written and video evidence for Outcomes 2. Delivering centres will be responsible for ensuring authenticity of candidate's work.

For information for normal open learning arrangements, please refer to the SQA guide *Assessment and Quality Assurance for Open and Distance Learning* (SQA, A1030).

## **Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)**

**Unit title:** Music: Live Performance Skills 2

### **Candidates with additional support needs**

This Unit specification is intended to ensure that there are no artificial barriers to learning or assessment. The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments or considering alternative Outcomes for Units. For information on these, please refer to the SQA document *Guidance on Assessment Arrangements for Candidates with Disabilities and/or Additional Support Needs*, which is available on the SQA website **[www.sqa.org.uk](http://www.sqa.org.uk)**.

## General information for candidates

### Unit title: Music: Live Performance Skills 2

This Unit is designed to give you an understanding of the practical aspects associated with a live performance and to recognise and understand the main issues involved.

It is primarily intended to help you prepare a set list and perform selected pieces live.

You will be required to prepare at least two pieces for rehearsal. If you are playing in an ensemble you will collectively select a balanced set for performance from the music rehearsed.

You will oversee the efficient running of the rehearsals ensuring the relevant personnel are well aware of their responsibilities. Any changes in arrangements or individual parts will be your responsibility — consultation with the ensemble should ensure the changes can be achieved. You must create a balanced sound at rehearsal and keep the focus on the project. At the venue you will pay close attention to the overall stage sound at the sound check and make sure this is maintained at the performance through consultation with relevant personnel. You must also ensure the duration of the set is as agreed with the promoter.

You will be required to:

- 1 Prepare and rehearse a programme of music for live performance.
- 2 Perform a programme of music live in a professional manner.

You will be assessed as follows:

- 1 You must demonstrate that you can prepare and rehearse music in a satisfactory manner. You will submit charts and lyrics of pieces to be rehearsed as well as a completed risk assessment of the rehearsal process.
- 2 Perform a programme of music. The performance will be recorded on a video format and kept as evidence for external moderation.

Observation checklists will be used to record evidence for both Outcomes.