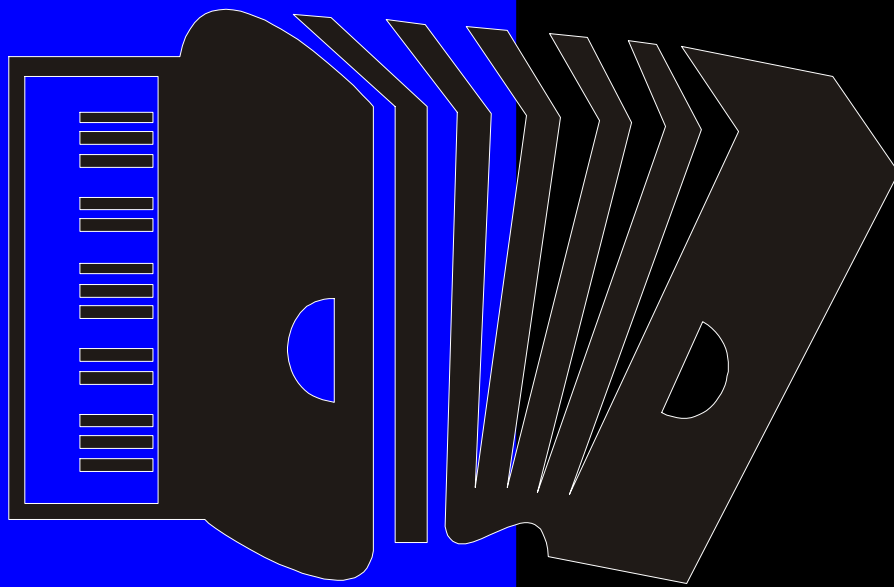


Victoria College Examinations



**Syllabus of requirements for
Examinations in Stradella & Free Bass**

Accordion



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Victoria College Examinations
in
Stradella and Free Bass
Accordion Playing

Founded 1890

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Principal : **Dr. Martin Ellerby**

**DMA HonVCM FVCMGLCM LMusLCM FTCL
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HonVCM CT FVCM LBCA



ABOUT THE VCM

Victoria College of Music and Drama, London Ltd. is an independent body providing examinations in Music, Speech, and Drama subjects. It has held examination sessions throughout the British Isles and certain overseas countries since it was founded in 1890. It no longer operates a full-time teaching institution. The VCM is a corporate member of the Worshipful Company of Musicians, the Music Education Council, the Association of Teachers of Singing, the European Piano Teachers Association, the European Recorder Teachers Association, the Society of Recorder Players, the European String Teachers Association the Society of Teachers of Speech & Drama, the National Association of Music Educators, the Association of British Choral Directors, the Schools Music Association of Great Britain and the Incorporated Society of Musicians.

COMPARISONS WITH OTHER EXAMINATION BODIES

In response to views expressed by parents and teachers, VCM practical examinations have for many years sought to encourage pupils at the very first steps level with introductory Grades for practical examinations. This policy has inspired pupils to practise beyond the first novelty stage, grade by grade, to Medal and Diploma level in due course.

For this reason VCM Introductory Grades are pitched at a level of attainment below Grade 1. Grades 1 to 8 are intended to be of a level of difficulty equivalent to those of the other recognised examination boards.

WHAT THE EXAMINER IS LOOKING FOR

Examiners are looking for a combination of skill, knowledge and understanding. Questions will therefore be intended to measure the depth of understanding, not simply an ability to repeat definitions. Ingenuity, variety, musicianship, poise and presentation, and a sense of style are rewarded, as well as technical skill and musical accuracy.

THEORY QUESTIONS

Questions are based principally on the music performed; but in addition examiners are at liberty to ask questions on notes, rests, musical terms and signs, key and time-signatures, rhythms, etc., according to the Grade.

SIGHT READING

Sight reading tests are included in all examinations from Preparatory (C) upwards. The relative standard will be that of approximately two grades below the grade being taken.

PIECES

Candidates are required to prepare the whole of the pieces they select from the lists, but the examiner may stop the candidate at any given point or ask for certain sections to be performed, or to omit repeats where appropriate.

Where examination requirements include own choices, a second copy must be provided for the examiner. This may be a photocopy provided that the original is used by the candidate. The photocopy should be destroyed after the examination.

EXEMPTION FROM QUESTIONS AT PRACTICAL EXAMS

Candidates who have passed certain VCM Theoretical Examinations are entitled to claim full marks for questions at Practical Examinations as follows:

Grade I Theory exempts up to and including Preliminary Practical

Grade IA Theory exempts up to and including Preparatory

Grade II Theory exempts up to and including Grade 3 and JBM Practical

Grade III Theory exempts up to and including Grade 5 and JSM Practical

Grade IV Theory exempts up to and including Grade 7 and SM Practical

In all such cases the theory result or certificate must be produced for the Examiner at the beginning of the practical examination.

PRESCRIBED BOOKS

London Music Press (LMP) publications can be obtained by mail order, post free worldwide. Contact the College for an order form. The contact details of other publishers are shown on the next page.

DEPORTMENT

Candidates should stand facing the examiner as if giving a live performance to an audience.

OWN COMPOSITIONS

Candidates at Grades 1 to 8 may offer an "own composition" in lieu of Musicianship Tests. This should be approximately the standard of difficulty of a set piece two grades lower. A second copy must be brought for the use of the examiner. Marks will be awarded both for skill in composition and competence in performance. The examiner will ask questions on the candidate's method of composition. Further guidance is available in *Crazy Composing* available from www.vcmpublications.co.uk

MUSICIANSHIP TESTS

Musicianship tests are given from Grade 1 (Primary) upwards. Details are available in a separate leaflet obtainable on request from the College and specimen tests are available from the College's own publisher, *London Music Press*.

PASS MARKS

Available marks are shown in italics in the syllabus.

Introductory Grades & Grades 1 to 8 65% with Merit 80%; with Distinction, 90% *Merit is shown as "Honours" in Ireland* Medal examinations 75%

Diplomas 75% (85% with Honours)

Diploma holders are entitled to use the appropriate letters after their names and wear the official robes. Successful medal candidates may purchase the appropriate medal.

REGULATIONS

All entries are accepted on the conditions laid down in *General Regulations and Information*, a copy of which will be sent on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope the size of this page or larger.

PHOTOCOPIES

All VCM and LMP publications are copyright. Photocopying of LMP publications is not permissible and examiners will retain and destroy any photocopies that are presented at an examination. It is acceptable, however, to use a photocopy for the second copy when the syllabus requires one to be handed to the examiner, provided the original is also used.

MEMORY

Playing from memory is no longer compulsory at any level. However, in all examinations from Grade 1 and upwards, credit will be given for playing at least one piece from memory, but candidates will not be penalised for not doing so. The piece(s) being played from memory must be handed to the examiner. Where syllabus requirements allow for an ~~own~~ own choice+piece, there is no reason why this should not also be the piece from memory if the candidate wishes.

Publishers' contact details

Useful website : www.musicforaccordion.com

ABRSM Publishing 24 Portland Place LONDON W1B 1LU Tel. 020 7636 5400
Alfred Music Trevani 14 Mapledale Avenue CROYDON CR0 5TB
Berben MusicWorld (UK) 17 Marsh Mill Village Fleetwood Road North THORNTON-CLEVELEYS Lancs FY5 4JZ Tel. 01253 822046
Boosey & Hawkes 295 Regent Street LONDON W1B 8JHTel. 020 7580 2060 Fax. 020 7291 7109
Bosworth Trevani 14 Mapledale Avenue CROYDON CR0 5TB
Charmwood Music 52 Merrion Avenue STANMORE MiddlesexHA7 4RU charmwood@accordions.com
Faber Music Ltd 3 Queen Square LONDON WC1N 3AR Tel. 020 7833 7900
Helbling* Musik F. Jetlina Grosswiesenstrasse 16 D78591 Durchhausen Germany
Hohner* Musik F. Jetlina Grosswiesenstrasse 16 D78591 Durchhausen Germany
Holzchuh* Musik F. Jetlina Grosswiesenstrasse 16 D78591 Durchhausen Germany
Kestrel 5 Ouse Drive WETHERBY West Yorkshire LS22 7UQ
London Music Press (LMP) 52 Bedford Row LONDON WC1R 4LR vcmexams@aol.com Tel. 020 7405 6483 Fax. 020 7405 6483
Modern Accordion Publications 2 Bence Close Darton BARNESLEY South Yorkshire S75 5PB
Peters 10 Baches Street LONDON N1 6DN Tel. 020 7553 4000 Fax. 020 7490 4921
Ricordi 69 Fulham High Street LONDON SW6 3JW Tel. 020 7384 8180 Fax. 020 7371 7270
Schmülling 52 Merrion Avenue STANMORE Middlesex HA7 4RU charmwood@accordions.com
Schott MDS Raywood Office Complex ASHFORD Kent TN27 0ET Tel. 01233 714741
SikorskiMusic Sales Ltd 8/9 Frith Street LONDON W1D 3JDTel. 020 7434 0066 Fax. 020 7439 2848
Universelles Trevani 14 Mapledale Avenue CROYDON CR0 5TB Tel. 020 8656 1450 Email: music@trevani.co.uk
Waterloo Music Exchange Claverton Road MANCHESTER M23 9ZA mail@music-exchange.co.uk Tel. 0161 946 1234Fax. 0161 946 1195
Yorktown Music Press Music Sales Ltd 8/9 Frith Street LONDON W1D 3JDTel. 020 7434 0066 Fax. 020 7439 2848

* UK contact: Trevani, 14 Mapledale Ave, CROYDON CR0 5TB Tel. 020 8656 1450 Email: music@trevani.co.uk

Introductory Examinations

First Steps

EXERCISES

20 marks

To play Exercises 1 & 2 in *First Steps Accordion LMP*
or in *First Steps Free Bass Accordion LMP*

SOLO PIECES

60 marks

To perform TWO of

Big Ben Chimes }

Oranges & Lemons } *First Steps Accordion LMP*

**Big Ben Chimes }

**Cuckoo! Cuckoo! } *First Steps Free Bass Accordion LMP*

SCALE

10 marks

Treble keyboard: C major one octave legato

(in *First Steps Accordion LMP* or *First Steps Free Bass Accordion LMP*)

QUESTIONS on the work performed

10 marks

**** Stradella or Free Bass Accordion**

Preliminary

EXERCISES

20 marks

To play Exercises 1 & 2 in *Introductory Accordion LMP*
or in *Preliminary Free Bass Accordion LMP*

SOLO PIECES

60 marks

To perform TWO of

Cock-a-doodle-doo }

Frère Jacques } *Introductory Accordion LMP*

*Row, Row, Row Your Boat }

**O Susanna } *Preliminary Free Bass Accordion LMP*

SCALE AND ARPEGGIO

10 marks

Treble keyboard: C major one octave legato

(in *Introductory Accordion LMP* or *Preliminary Free Bass Accordion LMP*)

QUESTIONS on the work performed

10 marks

* Free Bass Accordion

** Stradella or Free Bass Accordion

Preparatory

EXERCISES

20 marks

To play Exercises 1 & 2 in *Preparatory Accordion LMP*
or in *Preparatory Free Bass Accordion LMP*

SOLO PIECES

50 marks

To perform TWO of

Skater's Waltz }

Marian } *Preparatory Accordion LMP*

**Turkey in the Straw }

*Reflections } *Preparatory Free Bass Accordion LMP*

SCALE AND ARPEGGIO

10 marks

Treble keyboard: C and G majors one octave legato

(in *Preparatory Accordion LMP* or *Preparatory Free Bass Accordion LMP*)

SIGHT READING a simple line

10 marks

QUESTIONS on the work performed

10 marks

* **Free Bass Accordion**

** **Stradella or Free Bass Accordion**

Advanced Preparatory

EXERCISES

20 marks

To play Exercises 1 & 2 in *Advanced Preparatory Accordion LMP*
or in *Advanced Preparatory Free Bass Accordion LMP*

SOLO PIECES

50 marks

To perform any TWO of

Parnell: Spring Cuckoo
May Blossom
Romantic Moon
Summer Holiday

- all published in *F. Parnell: Mainly under the Fingers* by Charnwood

**Yankee Doodle }
**Boat-Song } *Advanced Preparatory Free Bass Accordion LMP*
*Vogel: Brave Knight in *The Joy of First Classics* pub. Yorktown
*Haughton: Green Dragon in *Roundabout* pub. ABRSM
**Harris: See-Saw }
**Harris: Clip Clop } in *The Young Palyer Vol. 1* (Charnwood)

SCALE AND ARPEGGIO

10 marks

Treble keyboard: C, G and F majors one octave legato

(in *Advanced Preparatory Accordion LMP* or *Advanced Preparatory Free Bass Accordion LMP*)

SIGHT READING a simple line

10 marks

QUESTIONS on the work performed

10 marks

* **Free Bass Accordion**

** **Stradella or Free Bass Accordion**

Grade Examinations

Grade 1 (Primary)

SOLO PIECES

60 marks

To play THREE pieces from

- Harris: Summer Days *The Young Player Vol. II (Charnwood)*
- Harris: Merry March *The Young Player Vol. II (Charnwood)*
- Grieg: Theme from "Morning" *Mainly under the Fingers (Charnwood)*
- Beethoven: Joy Theme from *Mainly under the Fingers (Charnwood)*
- Draeger: Musette from *Accordion Progression Book I (Helbling)*
- Parnell: Gavotte from *Mainly under the Fingers (Charnwood)*
- Parnell: Minuet and Trio from *Mainly under the Fingers (Charnwood)*
- *Parnell: Autumn Evensong *Mainly under the Fingers (Charnwood)*
- *Wilton: Moderato Little Sonata in *The Joy of First Classics (Yorktown)*
- *Wilton: Minuetto Little Sonata in *The Joy of First Classics (Yorktown)*
- *Haughton: Petite Valse in *Roundabout (ABRSM)*

SCALES AND ARPEGGIOS

10 marks

- Treble keyboard: C, G, F majors, one of which to be 2 octaves legato
- A harmonic minor 1 octave legato
- Bass keyboard: C major 1 octave legato

SIGHT READING a simple melody

10 marks

QUESTIONS on terms & signs used in the work performed 10 marks

MUSICIANSHIP TESTS/COMPOSITION see page 4 10 marks

* Free Bass Accordion

Grade 2 (Junior)

SOLO PIECES

60 marks

To play THREE pieces from

Charpentier: Prélude (Te Deum) LMP

Moore: The Last Rose of Summer LMP

Trad. Provençal Air LMP

All the above are published in Accordion Grade 2 by LMP

Harris: Happy Polka *The Young Player Vol.II (Charnwood)*

Alpine Yodel *The Young Player Vol.II (Charnwood)*

Draeger: Petit Concert (Omit dot repeats) from *Accordeon Progression Bk I*

(Helbling)

*Diabelli: Bagatelle in *The Joy of First Classics (Yorktown Music Press)*

*Vasco: Minuet in *Two original Pieces for Free Bass Accordion (Kestrel)*

*Haughton: Chinese Lantern in *Roundabout (ABRSM)*

*Wedgwood: Easy Does It in *Easy Jazzin' About (Faber)*

*Norton: Cowboy Song in *Micro Jazz for Starters (Boosey & Hawkes)*

SCALES AND ARPEGGIOS

10 marks

Combined hands: C major 1 octave legato

Treble keyboard: D and Bb majors, 2 octaves legato

A, D and G harmonic minors 1 octave legato

Chromatic Scale from C 1 octave

Bass keyboard: F major 1 octave legato

SIGHT READING

10 marks

QUESTIONS based on the work performed

10 marks

MUSICIANSHIP TESTS/COMPOSITION see page 4 10 marks

* Free Bass Accordion

Grade 3 (Advanced Junior)

SOLO PIECES

60 marks

To play THREE pieces from

Vivaldi: Spring from The Four Seasons LMP

Martini: Plaisir D'Amour LMP

Verdi: Quartet from Rigoletto LMP

All the above are published in Accordion Grade 3 by LMP

Draeger: Romance from *Accordion Progression Book I (Helbling)*

Draeger: Largo-Allegro from *Accordion Progression Book I (Helbling)*

Harris: Song Without Words *The Young Player Vol.II (Charmwood)*

**Harris: Evening Calm *The Young Player Vol.II (Charmwood)*

*Bach: Minuet (p.28) in *The Joy of First Classics (Yorktown Music Press)*

*Handel: Gavotte in *The Joy of First Classics (Yorktown Music Press)*

*Wedgwood: Champagne Rag in *Easy Jazzin' About (Faber)*

SCALES & ARPEGGIOS

10 marks

Combined hands: C major 2 octaves legato

Treble keyboard: A and Eb majors, 2 octaves legato

G and C harmonic minors 2 octaves legato

Chromatic scale from C# 1 octave legato

Bass keyboard: Bb major, A harmonic minor 1 octave legato

SIGHT READING

10 marks

QUESTIONS based on the work performed

10 marks

MUSICIANSHIP TESTS/COMPOSITION see page 4 10 marks

* Free Bass Accordion

** Stradella or Free Bass Accordion

Junior Bronze Medal

SOLO PIECES

80 marks

As for Grade 3

plus a fourth “own choice” solo of appropriate standard

QUESTIONS arising *from the pieces - composers, terms, signs, etc.* 10 marks

SIGHT READING

10 marks

Junior Silver Medal

SOLO PIECES

80 marks

As for Grade 4

plus a fourth “own choice” solo of appropriate standard

QUESTIONS arising *from the pieces - composers, terms, signs, etc.* 10 marks

SIGHT READING

10 marks

Grade 4 (Intermediate)

SOLO PIECES

60 marks

To play THREE pieces from

Bach: Musette LMP

Mendelssohn: Spring Song LMP

Di Capua: O Sole Mio LMP

All the above are published in Accordion Grade 4 by LMP

Draeger: Petite Overture *Accordion Progression Book 2 (Helbling)*

Draeger: Valse Folklorique *Accordion Progression Book 3 (Helbling)*

Gershwin: Fascinating Rhythm *Accordion Top Repertoire Book 10 (Sikorski)*

**Romani: Postlude *Work and Play Stage II (Charmwood)*

*Mozart: Minuet in F K.5 in *Twenty Five Early Pieces (ABRSM)*

*Seiber: Tango II (Habanera) in *Easy Dances Book I (Schott)*

*Gould: Festivity *Carnival Suite (PKW)*

*Greaves: Boys & Girls Come Out to Samba *More Swinging Rhymes (ABRSM)*

SCALES & ARPEGGIOS

10 marks

Combined hands: G, D, A and E majors 2 octaves legato

A harmonic minor 1 octave

Treble keyboard: E and B harmonic minors, 2 octaves legato

Chromatic scale from B 2 octaves legato

Bass keyboard: E and B harmonic minor 1 octave legato

Chromatic scale from C 1 octave legato

SIGHT READING

10 marks

QUESTIONS

10 marks

MUSICIANSHIP TESTS/COMPOSITION see page 4 10 marks

* Free Bass Accordion

** Stradella or Free Bass Accordion

Grade 5 (Senior)

SOLO PIECES

60 marks

To play THREE pieces from

Draeger: Impressions *Accordeon Progression Book 4 (Helbling)*

Draeger: Overture Classique *Accordeon Progression Book 4 (Helbling)*

Draeger: Prelude *Accordeon Progression Book 4 (Helbling)*

Bernau: Abend in der Puszta *Music Mappe II (M.Hobner)*

Crossman: Marcha Española (*Charnwood*)

Peyronnin: Brise Napolitaine in *Musette Melodeon (Holzschub)*

Ellington: I'm Beginning to see the Light *Accordion top repertoire Bk 10 (Sikorski)*

*J.S. Bach: Menuet in G Anh 116 p.10 *Anna Magdalena Book (ABRSM)*

*Kabalevsky: Toccata No.4 *Four Rondos Op.60 (Boosey & Hawkes)*

*Harris: Gigue *from Dance Forms (Waterloo)*

*Schmykow: Pink Panther's Brother *Album for the Young (Schmülling)*

*Bioccosi: Piccola Barcarolla (*Berben*)

SCALES & ARPEGGIOS

10 marks

Combined hands: F, Bb and Eb majors 2 octaves

C major in contrary motion 2 octaves

A and C harmonic minors 2 octaves

Chromatic scale from C 1 octave

Treble keyboard: A melodic minor 2 octaves

Major and minor scales: legato and staccato; chromatic scales: legato; arpeggios: legato

SIGHT READING

10 marks

QUESTIONS

10 marks

MUSICIANSHIP TESTS/COMPOSITION see p.4

10 marks

* Free Bass Accordion

Grade 6 (Higher)

SOLO PIECES

60 marks

To play THREE pieces from

Draeger: Theme et Variations *Accordeon Progression Book 4*
(*Helbling*)

Draeger: Allegretto - Moderato (omit dot repeats) } *Accordeon Progression*

Draeger: Tarantella } *Book 5 (Helbling)*

Trognee-Pagano: Retour des Hirondelles *Musette Melodien (Holzschuh)*

Adler/Ross:Hernando's Hideaway *Accordion Top Repertoire Book 10 (Sikorski)*

Crossman: Cavalina Mia (*Charnwood*)

Bernau: Zigeuner Suite Movts. 2 & 3 *Music Mappe II (M.Hobner)*

**Romani: Romance from *Romance and Rondo (Bosworth)*

*Kabalevsky: Dance No.2 *Four Rondos (Boosey & Hawkes)*

*J.S.Bach: Invention No. 1 in C *Two-part Inventions (ABRSM)*

*Schmykow: Ballet of the Puppets *Album for the Young (Schmülling)*

*Pesceti: Allegro (*Chester Music*)

SCALES AND ARPEGGIOS

10 marks

Combined hands: B and Ab majors 2 octaves

G, D, A & E majors in contrary motion 2 octaves

E, D and G harmonic minors 2 octaves

Chromatic scale from C 2 octaves

Treble keyboard: D and G melodic minors 2 octaves

Bass keyboard: A melodic minor 1 octave

Major, minor and chromatic scales: legato and staccato; arpeggios: legato

QUESTIONS

10 marks

SIGHT READING

10 marks

MUSICIANSHIP TESTS/COMPOSITION See p.4 10 marks

* Free Bass Accordion

** Stradella or Free Bass Accordion

Grade 7 (Advanced)

SOLO PIECES

60 marks

To play THREE pieces from

- Draeger: Romance and Allegro *Accordeon Progression Book 5 (Helbling)*
Toselli: Serenata (*Charnwood*)
Piazzolla: Adios Nonino (*Berben*)
Parnell: Rondo alla Zingarese (*Ledgerline*)
Frosini: Serenata Primaveraile *Frosini Highlights (Alfred Music)*
Frosini: Bel Viso (*Modern Accordion Publications*)
**Draeger: Scherzo *Accordeon Progression Book 6 (Helbling)*
*J.S.Bach: Invention No. 8 in F *Two-part Inventions (ABRSM)*
*Khachaturian: Sabre Dance *20th Century Classics (Boosey & Hawkes)*
*Piazzolla: S'il Vous Plait Album No.1 (*Universelles*)
*Pitfield: Kalinka Fantasy (*Charnwood*)

SCALES AND ARPEGGIOS

10 marks

- Combined hands: G, D, A, E and B majors 2 octaves
F, Bb, Eb & Ab majors in contrary motion 2 octaves
A and C melodic minors 2 octaves
Chromatic scale from Eb and Ab 2 octaves
Major, minor and chromatic scales: legato and staccato; arpeggios: legato

QUESTIONS

10 marks

SIGHT READING

10 marks

MUSICIANSHIP TESTS/COMPOSITION see page 4 10 marks

* Free Bass Accordion

** Stradella or Free Bass Accordion

Grade 8 Final

Candidates for Grade 8 must pass or have passed VCM Grade IV Theory of Music, or hold a certificate of exemption, before the Grade 8 certificate is awarded

SOLO PIECES

60 marks

To play THREE pieces from

Draeger: Variations sur un Theme *Accordeon Progression Book 6 (Helbling)*

Joly: Provencales *International Accordeon Book 3 (Helbling)*

Durand: First Waltz *(Charnwood)*

Fugazza: Dance Orientale *(Berben)*

Frosini: Bats at Sunset *(Modern Accordion Publications)*

Peyronnin: Reine de Musette *Musette Melodien (Holschub)*

Rossini: Largo al Factotum *(Charnwood)*

*Hovhanness: Suite for Accordion *(Peters)*

*Prokofieff: Troika *20th Century Classics Vol. 2 (Boosey & Hawkes)*

*J.S.Bach: Invention No. 14 in Bb *Two-part Inventions (ABRSM)*

*Zolotaryov: Children's Suite No.1 Movt.s 1, 2 and 5 *(Schmülling)*

*Daquin: Le Coucou *Early French Keyboard Music Book 1 (Chester Music)*

SCALES AND ARPEGGIOS

10 marks

Combined hands: F#, C#, Ab, Db and Gb majors 2 octaves

B, F# and C# majors in contrary motion 2 octaves

E, B, F#, F and Bb melodic minors 2 octaves

Chromatic scale from Db Eb and B 2 octaves

Major, minor and chromatic scales: legato and staccato; arpeggios: legato

QUESTIONS

10 marks

SIGHT READING

10 marks

MUSICIANSHIP TESTS/COMPOSITION see page 4 10 marks

* Free Bass Accordion

Bronze Medal

SOLO PIECES	<i>80 marks</i>
As for Grade 6	
<i>plus</i> a fourth “own choice” solo of appropriate standard	
QUESTIONS arising from the pieces - composers, terms, signs, etc.	<i>10 marks</i>
SIGHT READING	<i>10 marks</i>

Silver Medal

SOLO PIECES	<i>80 marks</i>
As for Grade 7	
<i>plus</i> a fourth “own choice” solo of appropriate standard	
QUESTIONS on the work presented, their composers and repertoire	<i>10 marks</i>
SIGHT READING	<i>10 marks</i>

Gold Medal

SOLO RECITAL	<i>80 marks</i>
Candidates must present a balanced programme of their own choice of four solos. The programme must show a range of styles. The standard of difficulty should be suitable to this level of examination. The programme may include an own composition or arrangement.	
Candidates should introduce their programme as to a live audience.	
There are no other tests for this examination.	
PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF THE WORK PERFORMED	<i>10 marks</i>
DEPARTMENT AND SUITABILITY OF CHOICE	<i>10 marks</i>

Diploma in Accordion Playing (DipVCM)

This diploma is available to candidates of any age. Successful candidates receive a diploma but are not entitled to wear academical robes.

PAPERWORK

Candidates for DipVCM must pass Victoria College of Music Grade V Theory of Music, which includes simple harmony: i.e. chords and cadences. The writing of sequences of chords is not required. See Theory syllabus for details. No exemptions are allowed and VCM has no reciprocal arrangement to accept Theory qualifications passed under other examination boards.

Part One Performance

80 marks

Candidates must prepare a programme of four solos selected as follows:

2 pieces from the AVCM in Accordion Playing syllabus.

1 piece from the Grade 8 Accordion syllabus, or a piece of similar standard

1 own choice of suitable standard (maximum 5 minutes) which may be a “popular” piece, or an arrangement made by the candidate, or an own composition (*see notes on p.4*)

Part Two Sight Reading

20 marks

Candidates are required to perform and answer questions on an unseen test after a few moments perusal.

Pass mark 75 ; with Honours 85

Fee: the same as current pre-diploma fee.

Fee does not include Theory Grade V.

Associate Diploma (AVCM)

CANDIDATES FOR ASSOCIATESHIP MUST PASS OR HAVE PASSED VCM GRADE V THEORY OF MUSIC BEFORE THE DIPLOMA IS AWARDED. NO EXEMPTIONS ARE ALLOWED.

Copies of works selected must be provided for the examiner

SOLO PIECES

60 marks

To play THREE pieces from the following list:

- Barton: Prelude and Fugue in A minor (*Charnwood*)
Crossman: Festa Rusticana (*Charnwood*)
Draeger: Ballade *Accordeon Progression Book 6* (*Helbling*)
Gart: Scherzo (*Berben*)
Crossman: Valse Acrobatique (*Charnwood*)
Moskowski: Spanish Dance No. 5 (*Kestrel*)
**Handel: Passacaglia (*Kestrel*)
*J.S.Bach: Minuet and Gigue French Suite No.6 (*Peters*)
*Tollefsen: Norwegian Suite No.1 (*Kestrel*)
*Lundquist: Weeping Willow and Thistle from *Botany Play*
(*Waterloo*)
*Zolotaryov: Monastery of Ferapont (*Schmülling*)

QUESTIONS

10 marks

Principally on Form, Style, characteristics etc. of solos keys, terms, repertoire.

SCALES AND ARPEGGIOS

20 marks

All major, minor (both forms) and chromatic - two octaves, similar motion
All major and minor arpeggios. Dominant and diminished 7th - two octaves.
Scales staccato and legato. Arpeggios legato only.

SIGHT READING

10 marks

* Free Bass Accordion

** Stradella or Free Bass Accordion

A.V.C.M. Syllabus II

As outlined under Syllabus I above, except that, instead of Scales and Arpeggios, an own choice solo is to be offered in addition.

Syllabus III TEACHER'S DIPLOMA A.V.C.M.(T.D.)

This is an initial Teaching Diploma for those with some experience of teaching at the lower grades and who intend to study further for teaching qualifications.

Candidates must submit with their entries ONE of the following:

1. A folio showing work and notes for a 10-week term for one of these categories:

the young beginner;
the teenage beginner;
the adult beginner

The folio should include lists of appropriate pieces, studies, books, websites, etc. appended as a bibliography. The examiner will discuss the folio with the candidate at the examination. A mark is not awarded for the folio which is either ~~approved~~ or ~~not approved~~.

2. A 25 minute DVD of them teaching a pupil of Grade 1 to 5 standard. The lesson should show work on at least one piece (approx. 15 minutes) and two other areas of the teacher's choice. A numerical mark is not awarded but feedback and an ~~approved~~ or ~~not approved~~ assessment will be given.

Solo Pieces (50 marks)

ONE piece from Grade 1-3 lists

ONE piece from Grade 4-5 lists

TWO pieces as set for AVCM Syllabus 1

Scalework (10 marks)

as set for Grade 8

Licentiate Performer's Diploma (LVCM) Syllabus I

CANDIDATES FOR LICENTIATESHIP MUST BE ASSOCIATES OF THE COLLEGE THOUGH NOT NECESSARILY IN ACCORDION PLAYING AND MUST PASS OR HAVE PASSED VCM GRADE VI THEORY OF MUSIC BEFORE THE DIPLOMA IS AWARDED. NO EXEMPTIONS ARE ALLOWED. [Regulations 13 & 15]

Copies of solos selected must be provided for the examiner

SOLO PIECES

60 marks

To play THREE pieces from the following list

- Albinoni: Adagio in G minor (*Ricordi*)
Draeger: Etude de Concert *Accordeon Progression Book 6 (Helbling)*
Draeger: Fantasie *Accordeon Progression Book 6 (Helbling)*
Lochter: Jagerlied Variations (*Schmülling*)
Fancelli: Acquarelli Cubani (*Modern Accordion Publications*)
Volpi: Preludio (*Berben*)
*J.S.Bach: Prelude and Fugue in D No.5 *48 Preludes and Fugues (ABRSM)*
*Paradisi: Toccata (*Schott*)
*Ibert: Le Petit Ane Blanc Histoires (*Leduc*)
*Fremar: Night Journey (*Deffner*)
*Zolotaryov: Childrens Suite No.2 (*Schmülling*)

QUESTIONS

10 marks

Principally on Form, Style, characteristics etc. of solos; keys, terms, repertoire.

SCALES AND ARPEGGIOS

20 marks

Combined hands: F, F#, G, Ab and A, majors in similar and contrary motion.

F, F#, G, Ab and A melodic minors in similar motion.

Chromatic scales starting on F, F#, G, Ab and A

- all for 3 octaves, legato and staccato

Treble keyboard: dominant 7th arpeggios F, F#, G, Ab and A; the diminished 7th arpeggios on F#, G and G#. All for 3 octaves, legato

SIGHT READING

10 marks

* Free Bass Accordion

Licentiate Teacher's Diploma (LVCM(TD)) Syllabus II

Candidates must submit with their entry a Dissertation or DVD as in the AVCM(TD) Syllabus, except the Dissertation must be 1500-2000 words in length (excluding topics set for AVCM (TD)), and the DVD should be about 30 minutes in length, showing about 20 minutes work on a piece of at least Grade 6 level, and about ten minutes on two other aspects of Teaching of this instrument.

PERFORMANCE SECTION (40 Marks)

To play TWO pieces by DIFFERENT composers, from the LVCM Syllabus I list (one of which may be an own choice)

TEACHING SECTION (50 Marks)

The candidate is to present TWO contrasted pieces by DIFFERENT composers from the VCM Grade Examination lists for this instrument, as follows

ONE piece from the Grade 6-7 lists;

ONE piece from Grade 8.

The candidate must be able to demonstrate/discuss the teaching of these pieces to examination readiness, to explain the difficulties likely to be encountered by the pupil, and to suggest ways of overcoming these problems.

The examiner may request extracts or complete performances of the chosen pieces, and the candidate's playing of them WILL BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT when arriving at the mark for this section.

The candidate must be able to demonstrate/discuss the teaching of Scalework as set for up to Grade 8.

Sight Reading (10 marks)

Fellowship Diploma (FVCM) Syllabus I

Candidates for the Fellowship Diploma are required to prepare a concert recital for the examination and should dress accordingly.

Candidates must present to the examiner on the day of the exam a portfolio of the pieces offered at the practical exam which will include a concert programme, copies of the pieces performed and some factual information about the pieces submitted. One of the solos must be a substantial guitar work. e.g. concerto, sonata or a suite.

Solo recital (90 marks)

Questions (10 marks) To discuss the pieces performed intelligently with the examiner, and repertoire for the instrument in general.

Fellowship Teachers Diploma (FVCM(TD))

Candidates must submit with their entry a Dissertation or DVD as in the LVCM (TD) Syllabus, except that the dissertation must be 3500-5000 words in length (excluding topics set for AVCM (TD) or material already submitted for LVCM (TD), and the DVD should be about 40 minutes in length, showing about 25 minutes work on a piece of at least DipVCM/AVCM level, and about 15 minutes on two other aspects of the teaching of this instrument.

Performance Section (40 Marks)

To play TWO contrasting pieces, of a standard commensurate with the Fellowship examination lasting approximately 20 minutes

Teaching Section (50 Marks)

The candidate is to present TWO contrasted pieces by DIFFERENT composers from the VCM Grade Examinations as follows:

ONE piece from the Grade 8 Syllabus
ONE piece from the AVCM , or LVCM Syllabuses.

The candidate must be able to demonstrate/discuss the teaching of these pieces to examination readiness, to explain the difficulties likely to be encountered by the pupil, and to suggest ways of overcoming these problems.

The examiner may request extracts or complete performances of the chosen pieces, and the candidate's playing of them WILL BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT when arriving at the mark for this section.

Sight Reading (10 Marks)