



*Victoria College Examinations*  
*vcmexams.com*

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**ELECTRONIC  
ORGAN**





# Victoria College of Music and Drama, London

Founded 1890

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# Electronic Organ Syllabus

Member of



## 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 European Guitar Teachers Association UK, the Society of Recorder Players, the European String Teachers Association the Society of Teachers of Speech & Drama, the Incorporated Society of Musicians, the Association of British Choral Directors, and the Schools Music Association of Great Britain.

## COMPARISONS WITH OTHER EXAMINATION BODIES

VCM Grades 1 to 8 are intended to compare on a level for level basis with the grades 1 to 8 of other similarly recognised examination boards.

In addition to Grades 1 to 8, VCM examinations are available at several introductory levels prior to Grade 1 as a means of encouraging beginners, or students with special needs. Medal and Diploma examinations are also available in all subjects. Candidates at all levels receive a written report, and if successful, a full certificate or diploma.

## EXAMINERS

All Examiners of the Victoria College of Music are appointed for their experience and understanding of candidates as well as for their professional and educational qualifications. All are trained by the College and their marking is regularly moderated to ensure consistent standards wherever Victoria College examinations are held.

## PASS MARKS

Introductory Grades	65%
Grades 1 to 8	65%
with Merit	80%; with Distinction 90%
Merit is shown as %Honours+in Ireland	
Pre-diploma certificate	75% (85% with Honours)
Medal examinations	75%
Diplomas	75% (85% with Honours)

## EXEMPTION FROM QUESTIONS AT PRACTICAL EXAMINATIONS

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

Grade 1 Theory exempts up to and including Preliminary Practical

Grade 1A Theory exempts up to and including Preparatory

Grade 2 Theory exempts up to and including Grade 3 Practical

Grade 3 Theory exempts up to and including Grade 5 Practical

Grade 4 Theory exempts up to and including Grade 7 Practical

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

## REGULATIONS

All entries are accepted on the conditions laid down in *General Regulations and Information*, a copy of which is available free of charge. It is also on our website: [www.vcmexams.com](http://www.vcmexams.com)

## ENTRY FORMS

All *grades* and *medal* examinations can be entered on white entry forms with no more than ten candidates on a page. Please use the code EO in the column headed %subject+and the letter(s) or numbers in the %grade no.+column as shown at the head of each grade in this syllabus. All *diploma* candidates should be entered on individual pink entry forms.

## **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, according to the Grade. Also specifically on minor keys; perfect, major, and minor intervals (Grade 3 upwards); the usual ornaments; harmonic/melodic minor scales (Grade 4 upwards); degrees of the scale; diminished and augmented intervals (Grade 5 upwards); and Triads and Cadences (Grade 6).

## **SIGHT READING**

Sight Reading tests are included from Preparatory level upwards. The relative standard will be that of approximately two grades below the grade being taken. For guidance, specimen Sight Reading are published by *London Music Press*. (See LMP order form/price list). Examiners will be at liberty to discuss the Sight Reading Test with candidates as part of the Questions.

## **MUSICIANSHIP TESTS**

Musicianship Tests are introduced from Grade 1. Musicianship Tests are no longer set for Medal or Diploma examinations. Specimen Musicianship Tests are available from *London Music Press*.

## **DISSERTATIONS**

Where dissertations are required, these must be submitted **at the time of entry** by email to [entries@vcmexams.com](mailto:entries@vcmexams.com). Separate or late submission is not permitted. Dissertations should be on plain white A4 paper, legibly written, typed or word processed. No binding is required. All dissertations should contain a bibliography.

## **PIECES**

Candidates are required to prepare the whole of the pieces they have selected 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.

## **SCALES AND ARPEGGIOS**

The examiner will request a representative sample of those specified for a particular examination. Scales and Arpeggios must be played from memory.

## **WHAT THE EXAMINERS ARE LOOKING FOR**

Examiners are looking for a combination of skill, knowledge and understanding. Questions are asked in a manner which assesses the candidate's depth of understanding, not merely the ability to repeat definitions. Ingenuity, variety, musicianship, and a sense of style are rewarded, as well as technical skill and musical accuracy. Examiners in this subject award marks for demonstration of skill compatible with the design of the instrument and not simply the techniques applicable to the piano or pipe organ.

## **ABOUT THIS SYLLABUS**

The Victoria College of Music, London, was a pioneer in the recognition of the Electronic Organ as a serious musical instrument and has been holding local centre examinations in Electronic Organ Playing for almost as long as the instrument has been available. The College did, and still does, hold examinations in American Organ and Harmonium Playing since it was founded in 1890.

## **MEDAL EXAMINATIONS**

Successful candidates at medal examinations receive a certificate and a medal order form. Prices of medals are shown on the medal order form. Medals are supplied in boxes and are engraved with the candidate's name, subject of examination and the year.

Medal awards do not entitle holders to designatory letters after their names

## MEMORY

In all examinations, credit will be given for playing at least one piece from memory, but candidates will not be penalised for not doing so.

## MEDLEYS & OWN CHOICES

Where examination requirements include medleys or own choices, a second copy must be provided for the examiner. Medleys should include a minimum of three tunes, an introduction passage, suitable links and a coda drawing on the musical material of the music performed..

## 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.

## PHOTOCOPIES

All VCM and LMP publications are copyright. Photocopying of LMP publications is not permissible and **candidates using unauthorised photocopies at examinations will be disqualified**. 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 brought to the examination. It is also acceptable to use photocopies of parts of long pieces to avoid awkward page turns, again provided the original is also brought to the examination.

## SET BOOKS

London Music Press (*LMP*) publications are available from our own in-house publisher *London Music Press* (see block advertisement across.)

Non-London Music Press can be purchased from music shops on the Internet. We recommend [www.mailmymusic.com](http://www.mailmymusic.com)

Some out of print music can be purchased on [www.Amazon.co.uk](http://www.Amazon.co.uk) or [www.ebay.co.uk](http://www.ebay.co.uk). Sheet Music Warehouse stock the range of Complete Organ Player books used throughout this syllabus. See [www.sheetmusicwarehouse.co.uk](http://www.sheetmusicwarehouse.co.uk)

OWN CHOICE PIECES can be transcriptions made by teachers or candidates from pieces written for other instruments.



**London Music Press**  
52 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4LR  
*the College's own in-house publisher.*

*LMP exists to provide an inexpensive method for candidates to obtain set pieces for examinations at economical prices*

*An order form showing the price and availability of all LMP publications is available on request.*

*All orders are despatched post free worldwide*

*Discounts for quantity.*

*Payment by cheque in Sterling or Euro with order.*

*All LMP publications are guaranteed to remain available in print for the duration of the syllabus*

*LMP publications can be ordered online at*  
**[www.vcmpublications.co.uk](http://www.vcmpublications.co.uk)**

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		<i>EO</i>	<i>A</i>

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		<i>EO</i>	<i>B</i>

## First Steps in Electronic Organ Playing

### Exercises (20 marks)

*First Steps Electronic Organ Exam Sheet  
London Music Press*

Exercise No. 1 and 2 plus Pedal Exercise

### Scalework (10 marks)

Scale of C major, one octave separate hands, no pedals

Tonic chord of C major in root position, left hand only

### Solo Pieces (60 marks)

To play any two of the following pieces:

*First Steps Electronic Organ Exam Sheet  
London Music Press*

One Man Went to Mow

Song of Joy

*Complete Organ Player Book One Faber*

Merrily We Roll Along

Largo

*An own choice of comparable standard  
not listed elsewhere in the syllabus*

### Questions (10 marks)

## Preliminary Electronic Organ Playing

### Exercises (20 marks)

*Preliminary Electronic Organ Exam Sheet  
London Music Press*

Exercise No. 1 and 2 plus Pedal Exercise

### Scalework (10 marks)

Scale of C major, G major one octave separate hands, no pedals

Tonic chord of C major, G major in root position, left hand only

### Solo Pieces (60 marks)

To play any two of the following pieces:

*Preliminary Electronic Organ Exam Sheet  
London Music Press*

Swiss Folk Song

Michael Row the Boat Ashore

*Complete Organ Player Book One Faber*

Barcarolle

When The Saints

*An own choice of comparable standard not  
listed elsewhere in the syllabus*

### Questions (10 marks)



SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		EO	C

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		EO	D

## Preparatory Electronic Organ Playing

### Exercises (20 marks)

*Preparatory Electronic Organ Exam Sheet  
London Music Press*

Exercise No. 1 and 2 plus Pedal Exercise

### Scalework (10 marks)

Scale of C major, G major and F major  
one octave, both hands together, no  
pedals

Tonic chord of C, G and F majors in root  
position, left hand only

### Solo Pieces (50 marks)

To play any two of the following pieces:

*Preparatory Electronic Organ Exam  
Sheet London Music Press*

Lavender & Blue

A Little March

*Complete Organ Player Book One Faber*

For He & A Jolly Good Fellow

Wooden Heart

*An own choice of comparable standard  
not listed elsewhere in the syllabus*

### Questions (10 marks)

### Sight Reading (10 marks)

Right hand only

## Advanced Preparatory Electronic Organ Playing

### Exercises (20 marks)

*Advanced Preparatory Electronic Organ  
Exam Sheet London Music Press*

Exercise No. 1 and 2 plus Pedal Exercise

### Scalework (10 marks)

- Scale of C, G, F and D majors, one octave, both hands together, no pedals
- Arpeggios of C, G, F and D majors, one octave, right hand only
- Tonic chord of F and D major in root position, left hand only

### Solo Pieces (50 marks)

To play any two of the following pieces:

*Advanced Preparatory Electronic Organ  
Exam Sheet London Music Press*

Sammons: A Christmas Carol

Handel: Minuet

### Own Choice

*A piece of suitable standard not listed  
elsewhere in the syllabus*

### Questions (10 marks)

### Sight Reading (10 marks)

Right hand only

# Grade One

## Electronic Organ Playing

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		EO	1

### Solo Pieces (60 marks)

To play any three pieces, **one** from each list

#### List A

*Grade 1 Electronic Organ Exam Sheet*

#### London Music Press

Sibelius: Finlandia

Mendelssohn: Slow March theme from the Italian Symphony

Italian Folk Song: Santa Lucia

#### *The Joy of Organ Music Yorktown*

Saint-Saens: My Heart At Thy Sweet Voice

Trad: Londonderry Air

#### List B

*The Complete Organ Player Book 1 Wise*

Goodnight Sweetheart

*The Complete Organ Player Book 2 Wise*

Goodnight Sweetheart

Scarlet Ribbons

Carolina Moon

#### List C

*The Complete Organ Player Book 1 Wise*

Every Breath You Take

*The Complete Organ Player Songbook 1*

#### Wise

I Love You Because

Streets of London

An own choice piece of comparable standard chosen from the last 25 years.

### Scalework (10 marks)

The examiner will request a representative sample of:

*Junior Organ Scales London Music Press*

**Scales** C, G, F and D majors, A harmonic minor, 2 octaves, both hands together

**Arpeggios** C, G, F and D majors, A minor, 2 octaves, right hand only

**Tonic Chords** C, G, F and D majors, A minor, in root position and inversions, left hand only

### Questions (10 marks)

#### Sight Reading (10 marks)

Both hands, no pedals

**EITHER of the following two tests (10 marks)**

#### a) Musicianship Tests

Test 1: To clap a rhythm in 2/4 time. 2 bars in length, played twice by the examiner.

Test 2: To identify any note in the arpeggio C/E/G/C', Middle C being given

Test 3: To echo a five-note phrase played twice by the examiner.

#### or b) Own composition

Perform an own composition of about 8 bars in the key of C major. It should be balanced as an opening 4-bar phrase which forms a question and a 4-bar phrase that forms an answer.

# Grade Two

## Electronic Organ Playing

Show on entry form as

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		EO	2

### Solo Pieces (60 marks)

To play any three pieces, **one** from each list

#### List A

Grade 2 Electronic Organ Exam Sheet **London Music Press**

Tchaikovsky: Theme from *Batheticque*+Symphony No 6

Haydn: Romance from *La Reine*+Symphony

Sammons: Valse Petite

### Scalework (10 marks)

The examiner will request a representative sample of:

**Junior Organ Scales London Music Press**

**Scales** A, E & B flat majors, A & D harmonic minors, 2 octaves, both hands together

**Arpeggios** A, E & B flat majors, A & D minors, 2 octaves, right hand only

**Tonic chords** A, E & B flat majors, A & D minors, in root position and inversions, left hand only

### Questions (10 marks)

#### Sight Reading (10 marks)

A pedal only test

### EITHER of the following two tests (10 marks)

#### a) Musicianship Tests

Test 4: To clap a rhythm in 2/4 time. 2 bars in length, played twice by the examiner.

Test 5: To identify any note C to G, played from C

Test 6: To hum, play or sing a group of 5 or 6 notes played twice by the examiner, and to complete the phrase by adding **one** note

#### or b) Own composition

Perform an own composition of about 16 bars in the key of C, G or F major. It should be balanced as an opening 4-bar phrase which forms a **question**+, a 4-bar phrase that forms an **answer**+, a repeat of the opening 4-bar phrase, and a second **answering** phrase

# Grade Three

## Electronic Organ Playing

Show on entry form as

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		<b>EO</b>	<b>3</b>

### Scalework (10 marks)

In Junior Organ Scales **London Music Press**

- Scale of E, B, B flat and E flat majors, A, D, C & G harmonic minors, 2 octaves, both hands together
- Arpeggios of E, B, B flat and E flat, A, D, C & G minors, 2 octaves, right hand only
- Tonic chords of E, B, B flat and E flat, A, D, C & G minors, in root position and inversions, left hand only

### Solo Pieces (60 marks)

To play any three of the following pieces:

*Grade 3 Electronic Organ Exam Sheet London Music Press*

Prokofiev: The Huntsmen from Peter and the Wolf

Schubert: German Dance Op.33 No.7

Joplin: The Entertainer

*Tchaikovsky for Electronic Organ arr. Colin R. Tribe London Music Press*

Romeo and Juliet

*The Complete Organ Player Easy Listening arr. Kenneth Baker Wise Publications*

Heidi Have to Go

I'm a Dreamer, Aren't We All?

Spanish Harlem

Tulips from Amsterdam

Who Can I Turn To?

*Home Organist Library Abba arr. Kenneth Baker Wise Publications*

Hasta Mañana

The Winner Takes It All

*The Complete Organ Player Hot Movie Hits arr. Kenneth Baker Wise Publications*

Colours of the Wind from Pocahontas

On the Road Again from Forrest Gump

*Own Choice*

*A piece of suitable standard not listed elsewhere in the syllabus*

**Questions (10 marks)**

**Sight Reading (10 marks)**

**EITHER of the following two tests (10 marks)**

#### a) Musicianship Tests

Test 7: To clap a rhythm in 2/4 or 3/4 time, 2 bars, played twice by the examiner and identify the time as 2/4 or 3/4

Test 8: To identify any note(s) in the chords of C, G, or F, played from the root note.

Test 9: To hum, sing or whistle a group of 5 or 6 notes played twice by the examiner, and then to complete the phrase by adding two or three notes.

#### or b) Own composition

Perform an own composition in simple binary form in the key of C, G, F, D or B flat major.

# Grade Four

## Electronic Organ

### Playing

Show on entry form as

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		<b>E0</b>	<b>4</b>

#### Scalework (10 marks)

##### *In Junior Organ Scales* **London Music Press**

- All major scales starting on a black note, all harmonic minor scales starting on a white note, chromatic scales starting on C and D. 2 octaves, both hands together
- Arpeggios of all major keys starting on a black note, all minor keys starting on a white note, 2 octaves, right hand only
- Tonic chords of A flat, B flat, D flat & E flat majors, A, B, C, D, E, F & G minors, in root position and inversions, left hand only

#### Solo Pieces (60 marks)

To play any three of the following pieces:

##### Grade 4 Electronic Organ Exam Sheet **London Music Press**

Haydn: Theme from the Emperor Quartet

Prokofiev: Peter & the Wolf

Mussorgsky: The Great Gate at Kiev from Pictures at an Exhibition

##### *Tchaikovsky for Electronic Organ arr. Colin Tribe* **London Music Press**

Sleeping Beauty Waltz

##### *The Complete Organ Player Easy Listening* **Wise Publications**

An Apple for the Teacher

Heartaches

King of the Road

Love is Blue

Non Dimentica

The Hawaiian Wedding Song

There I've Said It Again

Unforgettable

##### *Home Organist Library Abba* **Wise Publications**

Chiquitita

Gimme Gimme Gimme

I Do, I Do, I Do I Do, I Do

I Have a Dream

Knowing Me, Knowing You

Ring, Ring

Super Trouper

Thank You for the Music

The Name of the Game

When I Kissed the Teacher

Why Did It have to be Me?

#### *The Complete Organ Player Hot Movie Hits*

##### **Wise Publications**

A Whole New World from Aladdin

Circle of Life from The Lion King

Forrest Gump Suite from Forrest Gump

Kiss from a Rose from Batman Forever

Love is All Around from Four Weddings and a Funeral

People from Funny Girl

Schindler's List from Schindler's List

The Great Love of All from The Greatest

Own Choice

*A piece of suitable standard not listed elsewhere in the syllabus*

#### Questions (10 marks)

#### Sight Reading (10 marks)

#### **EITHER of the following two tests (10 marks)**

a) Musicianship Tests

Test 10: To clap a rhythm in 2/4, 3/4 or 4/4 time played twice by the examiner, to state the time and then to identify the melody as major or minor.

Test 11: To identify triads as major or minor and then to name the notes in them, the root being named by the examiner.

Test 12: To hum, sing or whistle a group of notes- 2 bars - played by the examiner, and then to complete the melody by adding 4 or 5 notes

or **b) Own composition**

Perform an own composition in simple binary form in the key of D or B flat major, including a modulation to a related key.

# Grade Five Electronic Organ Playing

Show on entry form as

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		<b>EO</b>	<b>5</b>

## Scalework (10 marks)

In Advanced Organ Scales **London Music Press**

- Scale of C major one octave, separate hands
- All major and harmonic minor scales, A, D & E melodic minor scales, chromatic scales starting on any white note. 2 octaves, both hands together
- Arpeggios of all major and minor keys, 2 octaves, right hand only.
- Tonic chords of all major and minor keys, in root position and inversions, left hand only

## Solo Pieces (60 marks)

To play any three of the following pieces:

*Grade 5 Electronic Organ Exam Sheet* **London Music Press**

Vivaldi: Spring Pastorale from The Four Seasons

Mozart: Minuet from Symphony No.39 in E Flat

Mussorgsky: Promenade from Pictures at an Exhibition

*Tchaikovsky for Electronic Organ arr. Colin R. Tribe* **London Music Press**

Swan Lake

Concerto No.1 Theme from the 1st Movement

*The Complete Organ Player Easy Listening* **Wise Publications**

If I Had You

It's Magic

More than You Know

Those Lazy Hazy Crazy Days of Summer

*Home Organist Library Abba* **Wise Publications**

Dancing Queen

Fernando

Honey, Honey

Nina, Pretty Ballerina

Summer Night City

Take a Chance on Me

Waterloo

*The Complete Organ Player Hot Movie Hits arr. Kenneth Baker* **Wise Publications**

Arthur's Theme from Arthur

Golden Eye from Golden Eye

Mona Lisa from Mona Lisa

Tomorrow from Annie

*Disney Hits* **Hal Leonard**

Be Our Guest from Beauty and the Beast

Can You Feel the Love Tonight? from The Lion King

Colors of the Wind from Pocahontas

God Help the Outcasts from the Hunchback of Notre Dame

Own Choice

A piece of suitable standard not listed elsewhere in the syllabus

## Questions (10 marks)

## Sight Reading (10 marks)

## EITHER of the following two tests (10 marks)

### a) Musicianship Tests

Test 13: To clap a rhythm in 3/4, 4/4 or 6/8 time - 2 bars - played twice by the examiner, and to state the time, and then to say if the melody is in a major or minor key.

Test 14: To identify triads as major, minor, or diminished; and then to name the notes in them, the root note being named by the examiner.

Test 15: To hum, sing or whistle a two bar phrase played twice by the examiner, and then to continue with an answering two bar phrase.

### or b) Own composition

Perform an own composition in simple ternary form in a key of up to and including 3 sharps or 3 flats, including a modulation to a related key.

# Grade Six Electronic Organ Playing

## Scalework (10 marks)

In Advanced Organ Scales **London Music Press** show on entry form as

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		<b>E0</b>	<b>6</b>

· Scale of C major one octave, separate hands

· C, D, E, G and A majors and harmonic minors in contrary motion; B, C, F and G melodic minors in similar motion; chromatic scales starting on any white note in similar motion. 2 octaves, both hands together

· Arpeggios of all major and minor keys; Dominant 7ths of C, G, and F 2 octaves, root position, both hands together.

· Tonic chords of all major and minor keys; Dominant 7ths of C, G, and F in root position and inversions, left hand only

## Solo Pieces (60 marks)

To play any three of the following pieces:

### Grade 6 Electronic Organ Exam Sheet **London Music Press**

Mozart: Theme from Piano Sonata in A, K.331

Albeniz: Tango

Traditional: The House of the Rising Sun

### Four Short Solos **London Music Press**

Handel: Prelude

Handel: Air from The Harmonious Blacksmith

Handel: Largo arr. Tillett **London Music Press**

### Four Short Classics **London Music Press**

Beethoven: Theme from Romance in F for Violin

Mascagni: Intermezzo: Easter Hymn form Cavalleria Rusticana

### Tchaikovsky for Electronic Organ arr. Colin R. Tribe **London Music Press**

Andante Cantabile from Quartet in D Major

Selection from Symphony VI Pathetique

Andante Cantabile from the Fifth Symphony

### The Complete Organ Player Easy Listening **Wise Publications**

Amore

Perhaps, Perhaps, Perhaps

### Home Organist Library Abba a **Wise Publications**

Mamma Mia

Money, Money, Money

### The Complete Organ Player Hot Movie Hits arr. Kenneth Baker **Wise Publications**

The Living Daylights from The Living Daylights

### Disney Hits **Hal Leonard**

Beauty and the Beast from Beauty and the Beast

The Circle of Life from The Lion King

Friend Like Me from Aladdin

One Jump Ahead from Aladdin

A Whole New World from Aladdin

You'll Be In My Heart (Pop Version) from Tarzan

### Own Choice

A piece of suitable standard not listed elsewhere in the syllabus 15

## Questions (10 marks)

## Sight Reading (10 marks)

## EITHER of the following two tests (10 marks)

### a) Musicianship Tests

Test 16: To clap a rhythm in 4/4, 6/8, or 9/8 time - 2 or 3 bars, played twice by the examiner, to state the time and then to identify whether the phrase is in a major or minor key.

Test 17: To identify any type of triad, and then to name the notes in them, the root note having been named by the examiner.

Test 18: To hum, sing or whistle 3 or 4 bars played twice by the examiner, and then to continue by adding an answering phrase.

Test 19: To identify a cadence as Perfect or Plagal.

### or b) Own composition

Perform an own composition in variation form to the theme of *Twinkle Twinkle Little Star* or your own choice of theme. It should have balanced phrases and move to at least two related keys.



# Grade Seven

## Electronic Organ Playing

Show on entry form as

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		<b>EO</b>	<b>7</b>

### Scalework (10 marks)

*In Advanced Organ Scales London Music Press*

- C sharp, E flat, F and B flat majors and harmonic minors in contrary motion; all melodic minors in similar motion; all chromatic scales in similar motion. 2 octaves, both hands together
- Arpeggios of all major and minor keys; Dominant 7ths of C, G, F, D and B flat. 2 octaves, root position and inversions, both hands together.
- Tonic chords of all major and minor keys; Dominant 7ths of C, G, F, D and B flat in root position and inversions, left hand only
- Pedal Scale of C major and C harmonic minor one octave

### Solo Pieces (60 marks)

To play any three of the following pieces:

*Grade 7 Electronic Organ Exam Sheet London Music Press*

- Scarlatti: Sonata in B minor  
Puccini: Nessun Dorma from Turandot  
Ellerby: March Prelude

*Four Short Solos London Music Press*

- Handel: Minuet from Water Music

*Four Short Classics London Music Press*

- Beethoven: Bagatelle in E Flat  
Schubert: Theme from Impromptu in B Flat

*Disney Hits Hal Leonard*

- Hakuna Matata from The Lion King  
Something There from Beauty and the Beast

*Own Choice*

*A piece of suitable standard not listed elsewhere in the syllabus*

**Questions (8 marks)**

**Sight Reading (10 marks)**

Both hands, plus pedal

**EITHER of the following two tests (10 marks)**

#### a) Musicianship Tests

Test 20: To clap a rhythm in 3/4, 6/8, 9/8 or 5/4 time, for 3 or 4 bars, played twice by the examiner, to identify the time and then to identify whether the phrase is in a major or minor key.

Test 21: To hum, sing or whistle a group of 3 or 4 bars, played twice by the examiner, and then to complete by adding an answering phrase of 3 or 4 bars.

Test 22: To identify triads, played in any position, and then to name the notes in them, the root note being given by the examiner.

Test 23: To identify a cadence as Perfect or Interrupted.

Test 24: To name the notes in any supertonic triad (major keys only), the Tonic chord having been played and named by the examiner.

#### or b) Own composition

Perform an own composition in Sonata form. It should have balanced phrases and move to at least two related keys.



# Grade Eight

## Electronic Organ Playing

Show on entry form as

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		<b>E0</b>	<b>8</b>

**CANDIDATES FOR GRADE 8 MUST PASS OR HAVE PASSED VCM GRADE IV THEORY OF MUSIC (OR HAVE OBTAINED EXEMPTION) BEFORE THE GRADE 8 CERTIFICATE IS AWARDED**

### Scalework (10 marks)

In Advanced Organ Scales **London Music Press**

- Scale of C major one octave, separate hands
- All major and harmonic minor scales in contrary motion; all melodic minors in similar motion; all chromatic scales in similar motion. 2 octaves, both hands together. Chromatic scales from D and A flat in contrary motion.
- Arpeggios of all major, minor keys and Dominant 7th keys; Diminished 7th on C sharp. 2 octaves, root position and inversions, both hands together.
- Tonic chords of all major, minor keys and Dominant 7ths; Diminished 7th on C sharp. Root position and inversions, left hand only
- Pedal Scale of C major and C minor (both forms). One octave

### Solo Pieces (60 marks)

To play any three of the following pieces:

*Grade 8 Electronic Organ Exam Sheet* **London Music Press**

J.S.Bach: Toccata in D minor  
Schubert: Ave Maria  
Debussy: Reverie

*Four Short Solos* **London Music Press**

Handel: Sarabande

### Own Choice

A piece of suitable standard not listed elsewhere in the syllabus

### Questions (10 marks)

#### Sight Reading (10 marks)

Both hands, plus pedal

**EITHER of the following two tests (10 marks)**

#### a) Musicianship Tests

Test 25: To clap a rhythm in 2/2, 6/8, 5/4, or 7/8 time - four bars played twice by the examiner, to identify the time-signature, and to say if the melody is in a major or minor key.

Test 26: To hum, sing or whistle a 4-bar phrase played twice by the examiner, and then continue for 4 further bars with an answering phrase, not necessarily in sequence.

Test 27: To identify triads as major, minor, diminished or augmented, and to name the notes in them, the root note being given by the examiner.

Test 28: To identify a cadence as Perfect or Imperfect.

Test 29: To name the notes in a mediant triad in a major key, and the tonic chords having been played and named by the examiner.

#### or b) Own composition

Perform an own composition in Rondo form. It should have balanced phrases and move to at least two related keys.

Show on entry form as

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		<b>EO</b>	<b>JBM</b>

## **Junior Bronze Medal Electronic Organ Playing**

**Scalework** - *there are no Scale requirements for Medal Exams*

**Solo Pieces** (80 marks)

**To play any four from:**

Any pieces listed for Grade 3

Sammons: A Christmas Prelude No.1 from 2 Fantasies on Christmas Carols **LMP**

Sammons: A Christmas Prelude No. 2 from 2 Fantasies on Christmas Carols **LMP**

an own choice solo of Grade 3 level not listed elsewhere in the syllabus

**Questions** (10 marks)

**Sight Reading** (10 marks)

*Both hands no pedal*

**Musicianship Tests** - *there are no Musicianship Tests for Medal Exams*

Show on entry form as

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		<b>EO</b>	<b>JSM</b>

## **Junior Silver Medal Electronic Organ Playing**

**Scalework** - *there are no Scale requirements for Medal Exams*

**Solo Pieces** (80 marks)

**To play any four from:**

Any pieces listed for Grade 4

an own choice solo of Grade 4 level not listed elsewhere in the syllabus

**Questions** (10 marks)

**Sight Reading** (10 marks)

*Both hands no pedal*

**Musicianship Tests** - *there are no Musicianship Tests for Medal Exams*

Show on entry form as

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		<b>EO</b>	<b>BM</b>

## **Bronze Medal Electronic Organ Playing**

**Scalework** - *there are no Scale requirements for Medal Exams*

**Solo Pieces** (80 marks)

To play any three pieces listed for **Grade 5**

To play an own choice solo of **Grade 5** level not listed elsewhere in the syllabus

**Questions** (10 marks)

**Sight Reading** (10 marks)

*Both hands plus pedal*

**Musicianship Tests** - *there are no Musicianship Tests for Medal Exams*

Show on entry form as

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		<b>EO</b>	<b>SM</b>

## **Silver Medal Electronic Organ Playing**

**Scalework** - *there are no Scale requirements for Medal Exams*

**Solo Pieces** (80 marks)

To play any three pieces listed for **Grade 6**

To play an own choice solo of **Grade 6** level not listed elsewhere in the syllabus

**Questions** (10 marks)

**Sight Reading** (10 marks)

*Both hands plus pedal*

**Musicianship Tests** - *there are no Musicianship Tests for Medal Exams*

Show on entry form as

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		<b>EO</b>	<b>GM</b>

# Gold Medal

## Electronic Organ Playing

Entry for the Gold Medal is restricted to those who have already passed the Silver Medal in a keyboard subject.

Candidates must present a balanced programme of their own choice of five solos. The programme must show a range of styles. The standard of difficulty should be suitable for this level of examination. *(90 marks)*

### Introductions

Candidates should be able to introduce their programmes as to a live audience. Examiners will expect to be treated as an audience and addressed accordingly. Introductions should be interesting and show some variety. Style can be that of a compere and performer and it is recommended that candidates study these techniques at a live performance or TV or radio show.

### Department

Examiners will take into account general presentation of the solos, deportment, style, facial expression and sincerity. Examiners will expect candidates to dress as if they are performing in a public recital. A confident businesslike approach is looked for. Credit will be given for effort in presentation, but not for the quality or sophistication of the resources available to the candidate.

### Paperwork

The candidate should present the examiner with a concert programme. It should include:

- A front cover showing the name of the candidate
- A list of the pieces performed
- Copies of the scores of the pieces performed (photocopies are permitted but will be destroyed after the examination)
- A short summary about the pieces performed

### Discussion *(10 marks)*

Show on entry form as

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		<b>EO</b>	<b>PM</b>

# Platinum Medal

## Electronic Organ Playing

***Candidates for the Platinum Medal must have previously passed the Gold Medal in the same subject***

Candidates must present a balanced programme of their own choice of five solos (90 marks)

The solos should include the following:

The pieces must have been written in at least three different centuries.

The pieces must be by writers of at least three different nationalities.

The pieces must include a work composed in the last 40 years.

### **Introductions**

The standard expected is that of an amateur performance at a live local charity recital.

Candidates should be able to introduce their programmes as to a live audience.

Examiners will expect to be treated as an audience and addressed accordingly.

Introductions should be interesting and show some variety. Style can be that of a compere/performer and it is recommended that candidates study these techniques at a live performance or TV or radio show.

### **Department**

Examiners will take into account general presentation of the solos, deportment, style, facial expression and sincerity. Examiners will expect candidates to dress as if they are performing in a public recital. A confident professional approach is looked for. Credit will be given for effort in presentation, but not for the quality or sophistication of the resources available to the candidate.

### **Paperwork**

The candidate should present the examiner with a concert programme. It should include:

- A front cover showing the name of the candidate
- A list of the pieces performed
- Copies of the scores of the pieces performed (photocopies are permitted but will be destroyed after the examination)
- A short summary about the pieces performed

### **Discussion (10 marks)**

# Diplomas in Electronic Organ Playing

Successful candidates in Diploma examinations receive an A3-sized diploma of a design little changed from 1890, along with the examiner's report and an authorisation to purchase the appropriate academical robes.

All correspondence and payment for academical robes must be addressed directly to the official Robemakers Knights of Castle Cary, Knights Yard, Castle Cary, BA7 7AW.

## Robes

Diploma (DipVCM):

A black gown of bachelors style and rigid black square hat with tassel.

Associate (AVCM, AMusVCM):

A hood of Oxford simple shape in royal blue lined light blue, a black gown of Cambridge bachelor style with ½ inch blue ribbon on the facings and rigid black square hat with tassel.

Licentiate (LVCM, LMusVCM):

A hood of Oxford simple shape in royal blue lined scarlet, a black gown of Cambridge bachelor style with ½ inch of scarlet ribbon on the facings and rigid black square hat with tassel.

Fellowship (FVCM):

A hood of Oxford simple shape in royal blue lined scarlet edged with white binding, a black gown of Cambridge bachelor style with 1 inch of scarlet ribbon on the facings and rigid black square hat with tassel.

# Diploma in Pipe Organ Playing DipVCM

*Entry should be made on pink diploma entry form. This diploma is available to candidates of any age. Successful candidates receive a diploma and are entitled to wear the appropriate academical robes.*

## **PAPERWORK**

Candidates for DipVCM must pass Victoria College of Music Grade V Theory of Music before the Diploma certificate is awarded. Candidates who can produce evidence of having passed GCSE in Music or equivalent may apply for exemption from the Theory requirement.

### **Part One Performance (80 marks)**

To Play **Two Solos** drawn from the Associate lists. In the case of a major work only one movement is required.

To Play **One Solo** drawn from the Grade 8 List

To Play **One Own Choice** piece of a suitable standard which may be an own composition.

### **Part Two Sight Reading (10 marks)**

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

### **Questions (10 marks)**

# **ASSOCIATE DIPLOMA (A.V.C.M.) Syllabus I in Electronic Organ Playing**

This is a Performer's Diploma and a high standard of competence will be expected. Candidates must pass or have passed VCM Grade V Theory of Music examination before the diploma is awarded. Candidates who can produce evidence of having passed GCSE in Music or equivalent may apply for exemption from the Theory requirement.

## **Solo Pieces (60 marks)**

*Candidates must demonstrate competent use of electronic functions and facilities making use of voice changes, rhythm changes and dynamics. The use of a floppy disc or an SD card to store keyboard settings is permitted.*

To perform three items, one from each list:

### **List A**

*AVCM List A Electronic Organ Exam Sheet London Music Press*

Boccherini: Minuet from String Quartet

Mozart: Minuet from Jupiter Symphony

Bach: Toccata in D arr. Radford

### **List B**

To play an own choice modern piece of a suitable standard.

### **List C**

An own composition, or a second piece from List A, or to devise and play an own medley drawn from the Classics or Popular Music with suitable musical and thematic links and a coda.

## **Questions (10 marks)**

On all matters relating to the performance including selection of repertoire, technical issues, choice of registrations etc. will be asked.

## **Scalework (20 marks)**

*The examiner will request a representative sample of*

All major scales 2 octaves both hands

All major arpeggios 2 octaves both hands.

Tonic chords of major keys - left hand only. All inversions.

All harmonic minor scales 2 octaves both hands

All melodic minor scales 2 octaves both hands

All minor arpeggios 2 octaves both hands.

Tonic chords of minor keys - left hand only. All inversions.

Chromatic scale from any note - both hands similar contrary motion two octaves

All major and harmonic minor scales in 3rds hands together 2 octaves

All major scales in double 3rds separate hands, two octaves.

Dominant 7th arpeggios from keys of any note 2 octaves right hand only

Dominant 7th chords from keys of any note - left hand only. All inversions.

Diminished 7th arpeggio starting on any note 2 octaves both hands.

Diminished 7th chord starting on any note - left hand only.

Pedal Arpeggios of C major and minor, one octave

Pedal scales of C major and minor (both forms) and C Chromatic. One octave.

## **Sight Reading (10 marks)**

## **ASSOCIATE DIPLOMA (A.V.C.M.) Syllabus II in Electronic Organ Playing**

As outlined under Syllabus I above, except that, instead of Scalework, an own choice solo of a similar standard to the pieces listed in List A is to be offered in addition.

## **ASSOCIATE DIPLOMA (A.V.C.M.(T.D.)) Syllabus III in Teaching of Electronic Organ playing**

*This is an initial Teacher's 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 entry ONE of the following:

- (a) A Folio showing work and notes for a 10-week term of lessons for ONE of these categories: 1. The young beginner 2. The teenage beginner 3. The adult beginner
- (b) A 25 minute DVD of themselves teaching any pupil at any level from Grade 1 to Grade 5. Approximately 15 minutes should show work on at least one repertoire or examination piece, and approximately 10 minutes should work on TWO other aspects of Teaching the instrument, such as Sight Reading, Aural Training, Scales/Arpeggios etc.

### **PERFORMING SECTION (40 Marks)**

To play TWO pieces by DIFFERENT composers, from the AVCM 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 1-3 lists;

ONE piece from Grades 4-5.

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 5.

The examiner may also play extracts from the chosen pieces, with errors for the candidate to identify and correct, and questions may also be asked on the teaching of the pieces presented in the PERFORMING SECTION, on teaching matters generally, points arising from the Folio/DVD, and such aspects of an unseen piece, as tempo, phrasing, expression marks, fingering etc.

### **SIGHT READING (10 marks)**



# LICENTIATE DIPLOMA (L.V.C.M.) Syllabus I in Electronic Organ Playing

This is a Performer's Diploma and a high standard of competence will be expected. Candidates must hold the AVCM or equivalent in a musical subject and pass or have passed VCM Grade VI Theory of Music examination before the diploma is awarded. Candidates who can produce evidence of having passed A+Level in Music or equivalent may apply for exemption from the Theory requirement.

## **Solo Pieces** (60 marks)

*To play three contrasting pieces of suitable standard, one from each List*

### **List A**

Either an Own Choice piece from the Baroque Period (c1650-1750) of approximately five minutes in length.

or an Own Choice piece from the Classical Period (c1750-1830) of approximately five minutes in length.

### **List B**

An Own Choice piece from the Romantic Period (c1815-1910) of approximately seven or eight minutes in length.

### **List C**

To devise and play an own medley drawn from the post-1900 era with suitable musical and thematic links and a coda. Candidates should give a short introductory talk before playing the medley, giving details of composers and information about the pieces included. Examiners will expect to be treated as an audience and addressed accordingly. Introductions should be interesting and show some variety. The whole medley should take between six to ten minutes to perform.

## **Questions** (10 marks)

On all matters relating to the performance including selection of repertoire, technical issues, choice of registrations etc. will be asked.

## **Scalework** (20 marks)

*The examiner will request a representative sample of*

As for AVCM, plus

All harmonic minor scales in double 3rds, separate hands. 2 octaves

Pedal Arpeggios of C Diminished 7th and Dom. 7th of F, one octave

## **Sight Reading** (10 marks)

***In selecting Own Choice pieces candidates, in consultation with their teachers, should avoid pieces already prescribed in lower grades. Proposed programmes may be submitted for approval in advance to [vcMexams@aol.com](mailto:vcMexams@aol.com)***

## **LICENTIATE DIPLOMA (LVCM) Syllabus II in Electronic Organ Playing**

As outlined under Syllabus I above, except that, instead of Scalework, both own choice pieces in List A (*i.e. one Baroque; one Classical*) are to be performed.

## **LICENTIATE DIPLOMA (LVCM(TD)) Syllabus III in Teaching of Electronic Organ Playing**

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) in Electronic Organ Playing**

## **Syllabus I**

**Candidates must be Licentiates of the College in Electronic Organ Playing unless it has been agreed in advance that direct entry is appropriate by virtue of previous qualifications. There is no Theory requirement for this examination.**

Candidates must present a balanced programme of their own choice of five solos. The standard of difficulty should be suited to this level of examination.

The pieces may include an own composition and/or a medley based on a theme.

Candidates should be able to introduce their programmes as to a live audience.

**Solo recital** (*90 marks*)

**Discussion of the work performed** (*10 marks*)

# **FELLOWSHIP DIPLOMA (FVCM(TD)) Syllabus II in Teaching of Electronic Organ Playing**

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 for this instrument, 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*)