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Welcome to Our Popular Piano and Electronic Keyboards Syllabus

At Rockschoo! we believe that playing piano and keyboard should be exciting, fun and accessible. That is why we have made our syllabus flexible as well as rigorous, with specially commissioned music (from top UK composers and piano players) that everyone will enjoy and with the additional options of composing your own music or arranging hit tunes as part of the performed repertoire in the exam.

Our aim is to provide students with exciting, approachable music that inspires learning. For teachers, our syllabus is an opportunity to motivate students without having to re-learn how to teach the piano or how to improvise jazz from scratch!

Our popular piano syllabus has two exams in one. First there is the traditional **Grade Exam**, with three Performance pieces, Sight Reading or Improvisation & Interpretation, Ear Tests, Technical Exercises (such as scales and arpeggios) and General Musicianship Questions.

In addition there is the **Performance Certificate** for people who just want to perform pieces. In this exam you will be required to perform **five** pieces only, and no additional tests.

Our syllabus is also for **electronic keyboard** players.

In this *Syllabus Guide* you will find a complete description of the content of our **Grade Exams** and **Performance Certificates**, with a selection of sample performance pieces across the range of Grades, information about our composers, instructions on how to enter Rockschoo! exams, and an overview of Rockschoo!'s activities in the field of popular music education in the UK today.

Please note: exam requirements for candidates are printed in this Guide in italic type.

Keyboard Specifications and Performance Regulations

These examinations are designed for **solo piano** or **solo electronic keyboard**. Rockschoool examination centres should contain an acoustic piano and an electronic keyboard. However, candidates may decide that they wish to bring in their own keyboards for their exam performance. Candidates must ensure that their electronic keyboard is suitable for the technical requirements of the Grade:

Instrument Requirements for Electronic Keyboards

Debut and Grades 1-4: a minimum of five octaves, touch sensitive keys and with a sustain pedal.

Grades 5, 6 and 8: a full 88 note keyboard, touch sensitive keys and with a sustain pedal.

In addition, candidates must ensure that the keyboard has a 'realistic' piano sound and must bring a keyboard stand, amplification (if necessary) and all relevant audio and power leads.

Candidates must use a 'realistic' piano sound for their exam. Candidates are further reminded that these exams are for solo performances and should not use either backing tracks or internally generated, pre-programmed rhythms.

Grade Exams

Rockschoool's Grade Exams are made up of the following elements:

- **Performance Pieces (Debut; Grades 1-6 and 8)***
- **Technical Exercises (Grades 1-6 and 8)***

- Sight Reading OR Improvisation & Interpretation (Grades 1-5 only)
- Quick Study Pieces (Grades 6 and 8 only)
- Ear Tests (Grades 1-6 and 8)
- General Musicianship Questions (Grades 1-6 and 8)

*These sections of the exam can be done in either order.

In addition, each book contains a *Guru's Guide*, with handy hints on how to play each piece, along with information on the marking schemes used for each section of the exams and a guide to Free Choice Pieces.

Performance Certificate

For a Performance Certificate exam are required to perform **five pieces only**.

Rockschool's Performance Certificates in popular piano and electronic keyboard deal with candidate performances only. **Please note that for practical purposes, the *Debut* exam is effectively a Performance Certificate. The marking scheme for *Debut* is, therefore, identical as a Performance Certificate (see Marking Schemes, below).**

Exam Requirements

Performance Certificates: candidates are asked to perform either five out of the six pieces printed in the Grade books, or bring in up to two pieces from outside. This may be either a self-composed piece, or a piece of established popular repertoire.

Examination Timings for Grade Exams

- Debut: 15 minutes
- Grade 1: 20 minutes
- Grade 2: 20 minutes
- Grade 3: 25 minutes
- Grade 4: 25 minutes
- Grade 5: 25 minutes
- Grade 6: 30 minutes
- Grade 7: 30 minutes
- Grade 8: 30 minutes

Free Choice Pieces*

Candidates are able to play a number of free choice pieces in the examination:

- Grade Examinations: 2 free choice pieces
- Performance Certificates: 3 free choice pieces

*Please refer to Page 15 for the full Free Choice Piece criteria.

Performance Pieces

There are six published pieces in each Grade pack specially commissioned by Rockscool from top composers. A small number of pieces are arrangements of traditional or classic tunes. Each of these represents one of the following styles; Blues, Jazz, Classic, Pop and Rock, World Music and Film Music.

Exam Requirements

Debut: candidates are asked to perform five out of the six pieces printed in the Debut examination pack.

Grades 1-6 and 8: candidates are asked to perform either three out of the six pieces printed in the grade packs, or two pieces from the grade pack and one brought into the exam by the candidate. This may be either a self-composed piece or a piece of established popular repertoire. This would be classed as a Free Choice Piece, and should have the same technical requirements as other pieces at that level.

If you are unsure about the suitability of the Free Choice Piece then please email it to Rockscool's Head Office for approval.

Candidates may wish to adapt the performance pieces printed in the grade packs to suit their playing style and include improvisational passages, so long as these adaptations keep within the spirit of the style of the piece.

Guidelines are also published in each Grade book for those candidates who wish either to write a piece of their own for performance in the exams or to use as a guide when choosing a piece of established repertoire.

Technical Exercises

The range of technical exercises to be played by candidates is published in each book. These are played to a tempo set for the candidate by the examiner and the candidate can choose to play along to the click or without it.

Exam Requirements

Grade 1

These should be played at 60bpm in a straight feel, right and left hand separately.

Group A – scales: • C major scale • A Aeolian • C major pentatonic • E minor pentatonic (3 note pattern)

Group B – broken chords: • G major broken chord • A minor broken chord

Grade 2

These should be played at 70bpm in a straight feel.

Group A – scales: • Hands together over 2 octaves • F major scale • C Mixolydian • E Aeolian • A Dorian • G major pentatonic (five note pattern) • A minor pentatonic (five note pattern)

Group B – arpeggios: • Hands separately over 2 octaves • G major arpeggio • A minor arpeggio

Grade 3

These should be played at 60bpm in either a straight or swung feel over 2 octaves.

Group A – scales: • Hands together • D major scale • A Mixolydian • C Aeolian • D Dorian • Bb Lydian

• Right and left hand separately: • F major pentatonic scale • C minor pentatonic scale • C blues scale • C chromatic scale

Group B – arpeggios: • Right and left hand separately • F major arpeggio • E minor arpeggio

Grade 4

Exercises should be prepared in the following keys: C, F, G, D and Bb and played at 90bpm in either a straight or a swung feel over 2 octaves.

Group A – scales: • Hands together • major scale • Mixolydian • Lydian • Aeolian • Dorian • chromatic scale

• Hands separately: • major pentatonic scale • minor pentatonic scale • blues scale

Group B – arpeggios: • Hands separately: • major arpeggio

Grade 5

Exercises should be prepared in the following keys: C, F, G, D, Bb and A and played at 100bpm in either a straight or swung feel over 3 octaves unless otherwise indicated.

Group A – scales: • Hands together: • major scale • Mixolydian • Lydian • Aeolian • Dorian
• chromatic scale

• Hands separately: • major pentatonic scale • minor pentatonic scale • blues scale
(2 octaves)

Group B – arpeggios: • Hands together: • dominant 7th arpeggio (2 octaves) • minor 7th arpeggio
(2 octaves)

Grade 6

Exercises should be prepared in the following keys: C, F, G, D, B \flat and A and played at 120bpm in either a straight or swung feel over 4 octaves.

Group A – scales: • Hands together: • major scale • Lydian • Mixolydian • harmonic minor • melodic minor • diminished • chromatic scale • double octave • contrary motion scales

Group B – arpeggios: • Hands together: • dominant 7th • minor 7th • diminished 7th arpeggios

Grade 8

Exercises should be prepared in any key and played at 140bpm in either a straight or a swung feel over 4 octaves.

Group A – scales: • Hands together: • major scale • Dorian • Lydian • Mixolydian • Aeolian
• Lydian $\flat 7$ • harmonic minor • melodic minor • diminished • chromatic • double octave • contrary motion
• whole tone scales

Group B – arpeggios: • Hands together: • dominant 7th • minor 7th • diminished 7th
• augmented arpeggios

Sight-Reading or Improvisation & Interpretation (Grades 1-5 only)

Candidates attempting Grades 1-5 inclusive have a choice of taking either the Sight

Reading or the Improvisation & Interpretation test. Examples of the types of tests required in the exam are printed in the grade books.

Exam Requirements: Sight Reading

Candidates will be asked to prepare a Sight Reading test which is given to them by the examiner. The test will be in one of the six styles common to the performance pieces. Candidates are asked not to write on the version of the test given to them. The examiner will allow 90 seconds for preparation and will then set a tempo for the candidate who must attempt a performance promptly.

Candidates can expect the following bar lengths, tempi and time signatures in each grade:

- **Grade 1:** 4 bars, 60 bpm, common time
- **Grade 2:** 4 bars, 60 bpm, common time
- **Grade 3:** 8 bars, 60-80 bpm, 2/4, 3/4, or 4/4
- **Grade 4:** 12 bars, 60-80 bpm, as for Grade 3
- **Grade 5:** 16 bars, 60-80 bpm, as for Grades 3 and 4, plus a range of musical notation signs, including repeats, DC and DS al coda and 1st and 2nd time bars

In all grades the note values used will reflect the standard of the performance pieces.

Exam Requirements: Improvisation & Interpretation

Candidates will be asked to prepare an Improvisation & Interpretation test which is given to them by the examiner. The sheet will have a number of bars and each bar will contain one or more chords. Candidates are asked to produce a performance made up of chords and/or single notes. The test will be in one of the six styles common to the performance pieces. Candidates are asked not to write on the version of the test given to them. The examiner will allow 30 seconds for preparation and will then set a tempo for the candidate who must attempt a performance promptly.

Candidates can expect the following chord requirements, bar lengths, tempi and time signatures in each grade:

- **Grade 1:** 1 chord per bar, 4 bars, 60 bpm, common time
- **Grade 2:** up to 2 chords per bar, 4 bars, 60 bpm, common time
- **Grade 3:** up to 2 chords per bar, 8 bars, 60-80 bpm, 2/4, 3/4, or 4/4
- **Grade 4:** up to 2 chords per bar, 12 bars, 60-80 bpm, as for Grade 3, plus a range of musical notation signs, 1st and 2nd time bars
- **Grade 5:** 16 bars, 60-80 bpm, as for Grades 3 and 4, plus a range of musical notation signs, including repeats, DC and DS al coda and 1st and 2nd time bars

In all grades the note values used will reflect the standard of the performance pieces.

Quick Study Pieces (Grades 6 and 8 Only)

Candidates attempting either of these grades will be asked to perform a Quick Study Piece. Candidates will be asked to prepare a performance from an outline given to them

by the examiner. The outline is in the form of a 'lead sheet' or 'session chart' and will contain information on style, tempo and length, along with other musical information, such as dynamics, solo sections, left and right hand instructions and expression marks. The performance should reflect the style of the piece and candidates should use the spaces in the music to develop their musical ideas.

You will have **three minutes** (180 seconds) to study the test. The backing track will be played twice more. You are allowed to practise during the first run through of the backing track, with the notated parts now absent, before playing it to the examiner on the second playing of the backing track.

Exam Requirements: Quick Study Piece

Grade 6: *the QSP will be in one of the six styles designated in the performance pieces and will consist of between 16-20 bars.*

The rhythms and chords will be indicated along with some written notation, dynamics and other music notation information.

The note lengths and rhythm values will be of Grade 4 standard. Tempo 80-100 bpm.

Grade 8: *the QSP will be in one of the six styles designated in the performance pieces and will be up to 32 bars in length.*

The rhythms and chords will be indicated along with some written notation, dynamics and other music notation information.

The note lengths and rhythms will be of a Grade 6 standard. Tempo 80-130 bpm.

Ear Tests (Grades 1-6 and 8)

Candidates will be asked to take two Ear Tests in their grade exam. The tests are played with a piano sound to the candidate by the examiner on CD and each test is played twice.

The first test, regardless of Grade, is a playback test where the candidate hears a melody and asked to play it back on the piano or keyboard.

In Grades 1-5, candidates will be told the key of the exercise and the first note in the sequence.

In Grades 6 and 8, candidates will be told the key only.

Exam Requirements – Test 1: Playback

Grade 1: candidates will be asked to play back a combination of notes composed from the first three notes of the G major scale (G, A, B) crotchets only, 2 bars, common time.

Grade 2: candidates will be asked to play back a combination of notes composed from the first five notes of either the C major or G major scales, crotchets and quaver notes only, 2 bars, common time.

Grade 3: candidates will be asked to play back a combination of notes derived from either the C major, F major, C minor pentatonic or F minor pentatonic scales, using simple melodic contours, crotchet and quaver notes only, 4 bars, common time.

Grade 4: candidates will be asked to play back a combination of notes derived from either the F and B^b blues scales and F and G major scales, using simple melodic contours, minims, dotted minims, crotchet and quaver notes, and some quaver syncopation and shuffle feels, 4 bars, common time.

Grade 5: candidates will be asked to play back a combination of notes derived from either the B^b and G major scales and A and D blues scales, note values and rhythms as in Grade 4, 4 bars, common time.

Grade 6: candidates will be asked to play back a combination of notes consisting of major, dorian or blues scales in the keys of C, F, G, D, A, B^b and E^b, note values as per Grade 5: but including semiquavers, 8 bars, common time, 6/8 and 3/4.

Grade 8: candidates will be asked to play back a combination of notes consisting of major, dorian or blues scales in any key, note values as per Grade 6, 8 bars, common time, 6/8 and 3/4.

The second test differs according to the grade being attempted. Candidates undertaking the chord sequence test (Grades 3-6 and 8) may use their piano or electronic keyboard as a guide.

Exam Requirements: Test 2

Grade 1: candidates will be asked to clap back a simple melody, quavers and crotchets, 2 bars, common time.

Grade 2: candidates will be asked to recognize a chord as either major or minor.

Grade 3: candidates will be asked to recognize a chord sequence using chords from the following: I, IV and V in the keys of either C major, G Major or A minor, 1 chord per bar, 4 bars.

Grade 4: candidates will be asked to recognize a chord sequence using chords from the following: I, II

minor7, IV, V7 and VI minor7 in the keys of either C major, F major or G Major, 1 chord per bar, 4 bars.

Grade 5: *candidates will be asked to recognize a chord sequence using chords from the following: I, II minor7, IV, V7 and VI minor7 in the keys of either C major, B^b major or D Major, up to 2 chords per bar, 4 bars.*

Grade 6: *candidates will be asked to recognize a chord sequence using chords from the following: I or I major7, II minor7, III minor7, IV or IV major7, V or V7, VI minor7 and minor VII^{b5} in any key, up to 2 chords per bar, 4 bars.*

Grade 8: *candidates will be asked to recognize the root movement and chord type of a chord progression using chord combinations of major, minor, major7th, minor7th, and minor7^{b5} on root notes I, II, III, IV, V, VI and VII in any key, up to 2 chords per bar, 4 bars.*

General Musicianship Questions

Each Rockschool grade exam finishes with five General Musicianship Questions. These are asked of the candidate orally by the examiner who uses a performance piece played by the candidate as the starting point.

Exam Requirements

Grades 1-6: candidates will be asked questions in two main areas;

- (i) music notation and theory*
- (ii) knowledge of the instrument*

Grade 8: candidates will be asked questions in the same two categories as above but will be asked questions in a third category;

- (iii) history and styles.*

A complete list of the topics covered in the music notation and theory category is printed in each Grade book.

All questions concerning instrument knowledge will deal with the instrument played by the candidate. Candidates using a piano will not be asked questions on electronic keyboards and vice versa.

Marking Schemes

All Rockschoo! exams are marked out of **100**.

The marking schemes for Grade Exams and Performance Certificates are different.

GRADE EXAMS

Grades 1-6 and 8 (marks)

Performance Piece (20)
Performance Piece (20)
Performance Piece (20)
Technical Exercises (15)
Sight Reading/Improvisation & Interpretation/ Quick Study Piece (10)
Ear Tests (10)
General Musicianship Questions (5)

PERFORMANCE CERTIFICATES

Performance Piece 1 (20)
Performance Piece 2 (20)
Performance Piece 3 (20)
Performance Piece 4 (20)
Performance Piece 5 (20)

CLASSIFICATION BANDS

The classification bands for **Grade Examinations** are as follows:

Pass: 60%–73%
Merit: 74%–89%
Distinction: 90% and above

The classification bands for **Performance Certificates** are as follows:

Pass: 60%–74%
Merit: 75%–89%
Distinction: 90% and above

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA: PREPARED WORK

Distinction

Pieces: 18-20 • Technical Exercises: 13-15

Merit

Pieces: 15-17 • Technical Exercises: 11-12

Pass

Pieces: 12-14 • Technical Exercises: 9-10

Below Pass 1

Pieces: 7-11 • Technical Exercises: 4-8

Below Pass 2

Pieces: 0-6 • Technical Exercises: 0-3

0 will be awarded in any of the above areas if no attempt is made

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA: UNPREPARED WORK

Distinction

Sight Reading/ Improvisation and Interpretation/ QSP: 9-10

• Ear Tests: 9-10 • General Musicianship Questions: 5

Merit

Sight Reading/ Improvisation and Interpretation/ QSP: 7-8

• Ear Tests: 7-8 • General Musicianship Questions: 4

Pass

Sight Reading/ Improvisation and Interpretation/ QSP: 6

• Ear Tests: 6 • General Musicianship Questions: 3

Below Pass 1

Sight Reading/ Improvisation and Interpretation/ QSP: 3-5

• Ear Tests: 3-5 • General Musicianship Questions: 2

Below Pass 1

Sight Reading/ Improvisation and Interpretation/ QSP: 0-2

• Ear Tests: 0-2 • General Musicianship Questions: 0-1

0 will be awarded in any of the above areas if no attempt is made

Free Choice Piece Criteria

Detailed criteria for composing or choosing Free Choice Pieces can be found in the *Guru's Guide* section in each of the Grade books. You should choose or compose your tunes using the broad criteria set out below, cross-referencing these with the more detailed descriptions contained in the grade packs.

As a starting point, always look at the tunes printed in the Grade books. There you will find one example of the six styles which form the core of the printed repertoire: blues, jazz, classic, pop and rock, world music and film music.

You should aim to choose or compose repertoire which falls into one or other of these categories. You may bring either a complete piece to the exam or a section (this may be necessary given the length requirements outlined below).

There are a number of elements which you need to take into account before making your final choices. These are:

- **Length:** you should aim to choose or compose pieces which last between a minute and three minutes maximum depending on the grade. You should use the pieces in the grade pack as a guide;

In addition, you will find a summary of the following requirements for each grade in the *Guru's Guide* and you should refer your piece to these criteria to ensure that they match the demands of the grade you are attempting. These are:

- **Physical techniques** • **Expressive techniques** • **Note values and rhythms**

If you are in any doubt, please use the printed repertoire as a guide.

EXAM REGULATIONS

1 - It is the responsibility of the entrant to read and abide by these regulations and to ensure that all those connected with the examination are aware of all relevant information. Entries will be accepted by Rockscool only in accordance with these regulations and our terms and conditions, and in all matters the decision of Rockscool is final.

- 2** – Rockschoool exams are open to all candidates, irrespective of age and without previously having taken any other grade in the same subject in accordance with our Equal Opportunities policy.
- 3** – Full payment and relevant documentation must be submitted, via the Rockschoool online entry system, on or before the chosen exam period’s closing date. If late entries are received a £15 fee will be applied to each candidate
- 4** - The late fee is non-refundable and does not guarantee that Rockschoool can fit the exam in the current exam period. Rockschoool reserves the right to defer the exam until the next available period once it has been clearly ascertained that no space is available in the current period.
- 5** – Rockschoool reserves the right to withhold the release of examination results and certificates until any outstanding fees are cleared. This will include any fees incurred for changing exam dates or upgrading exams.
- 6** – Sessions within the exam period may include any date between the start and end of that period inclusive of school days, weekends and school holiday periods. Entrants must indicate clearly on their application if they are not available for any part of these.
- 7** – Entrants are requested to provide a minimum of 21 days availability when applying for a Rockschoool exam. Entrants who do not provide this cannot be guaranteed an exam in their chosen period.
- 8** – Entrants will be responsible for supplying to Rockschoool accurate candidate information. Any changes to candidate information or availability will only be accepted in writing by email or letter.
- 9** – Names on certificates will be as on the candidate/s exam appointment.
A £10 fee will be charged if:
- a) Any amendments to the name are made after production of certificates due to error in the information given to Rockschoool
 - b) A replacement certificate is requested due to loss or damage
- 10** – Cancellation of an exam will result in loss of the exam fee. Full or partial refunds will only be given at the discretion of the Rockschoool senior management.
- 11** – Any changes to an exam date or time after it has been scheduled will incur a sliding scale of fees.
£15 – more than one month before the exam
£25 – within fourteen days of the exam
Any changes to an exam schedule can only be made by a Rockschoool Exams Officer.
- 12** – If the entrant wishes to move an exam to another exam period once it has been scheduled they will incur a charge of half the exam fee.
- 13** – Photocopying of any material to facilitate page turns in the exams is allowable. Examiners will not be able to page turn for candidates.
- 14** – Candidates wishing to use digital Rockschoool materials in the exam must ensure that the metronome and scroll bar are switched off.
- 15** – Candidates must bring two copies of music to the exam for any Free Choice Pieces. Scores must be fully staff notated and backing tracks must be without the examined part.
- 16** – Only the examiner and the candidate are allowed to be present in the examination room. Exceptions to this will be Rockschoool moderators, official Rockschoool approved translators and official Rockschoool approved assistants of special needs candidates. Teachers and parents will not be allowed into the room during the exam.

17 – Any entrants who have candidates with special educational needs must notify the Rockscool office of any special provision needed prior to the exam. Written medical evidence must be provided to Rockscool at time of application.

18 – Rockscool operates a quality assured appeals process. Full details of this appeals process and appeals form can be found at www.rockscool.co.uk

All prices effective from 1st January 2014 and all fees quoted are inclusive of VAT

Performance Piece Composers

Rockscool has commissioned a small group of professional songwriters and instrumentalists to produce repertoire for our popular piano and electronic keyboard

syllabus.

Most of the repertoire in the books is original but we have included arrangements of four tunes now in the public domain: two by Scott Joplin (*The Entertainer* and *Maple Leaf Rag*), and two traditional pieces (*When the Saints Go Marching In* and the French nursery song *Alouette*). In addition, we have commissioned four tunes from Boosey & Hawkes Music Publishers Ltd (Christopher Norton's compositions) and one from Faber Music Ltd (Stephen Warbeck). We have included a selection of the writers' biographies printed below.

Adrian York: Adrian is Rockschoo!s popular piano and electronic keyboard syllabus consultant and CD audio producer. Adrian is a successful media composer and a fixture on both the session and jazz circuits and has backed many top artists. Rumour has it that a long time ago he used to play in a well-known boy band. Adrian has composed a number of pieces across the grades, including two featured in this syllabus guide.

Stephen Warbeck: Stephen is one of the UK's top international film composers with an Oscar for the score of *Shakespeare in Love*. His other work includes music for *Billy Elliot*, *Quills* (a Golden Globe nomination in 2001) and most recently *Captain Corelli's Mandolin*. On his days off, Stephen also plays accordion in the legendary Khippers band with the actor who played Nigel in East Enders as lead singer. Stephen composed the film music piece *Water* for Grade 6.

Debbie Wiseman: Debbie is one of the UK's top film and television composers with over 100 scores to her credit. Her film credits include *Wilde* and *Tom and Viv*, while her TV work includes *The Peoples' Century*, *Vets in Practice*, and the award winning *The Good Guys* and *Shrink*s. Debbie has contributed three film music pieces, including one at Debut and another at Grade 8, both featured in this syllabus guide.

Nick Ingman: Nick Ingman is a freelance composer, arranger and conductor with a CV that includes Hollywood blockbusters such as *Shakespeare in Love*, *The Saint*, *Quills* and *Chicken Run*. His arranging work has featured to date on 15 UK number one hit singles including such artists as Robbie Williams, Geri Halliwell, Eric Clapton and Sinéad O'Connor. Nick has composed two pieces, including the sample *By George!* from Grade 4 featured in this syllabus guide .

Christopher Norton: Christopher has a thriving career composing music for film and television. In education he is best known for his groundbreaking *Microjazz* series of music education books published by Boosey & Hawkes Music Publishers.

Janette Mason: Janette is a top session player, jazz musician and media composer performing on piano, keyboard and organ for a number of artists including Oasis, Seal, Suzanne Vega, k d lang and Mica Paris. Her composition work includes a number of advertising campaigns and Channel 4 documentaries. Janette has composed one of the film score pieces and a pop and rock piece at Grade 5.

Alastair Gavin: Alastair has a thriving career as a media composer and is renowned as a fine pianist and keyboardist. He was the keyboard player in the BBC Rock School television series in the 1980's and has made appearances with artists as diverse as the Michael Nyman Band, Mari Wilson and trumpeter Harry Beckett. Alastair has contributed a number of pieces including *Everybody Shout* from Grade 3 featured in this syllabus guide.

Terry Seabrook: Terry writes music regularly for television, animated films and adverts. He records and performs with his own Latin group Cubana Bop on the international Jazz and Latin circuit. He also tutors piano as part of the world famous Jamey Aebersold Summer School each year. Terry has composed several pop and world music pieces including *Havana*, an extract of which is printed in this syllabus guide.

On the CD, all the tunes were performed by **David Rees-Williams** who has a dual career as a performer and educator from the Canterbury area. David brings a wealth of expertise across a range of styles to the performances. He is currently teaching at St Edmunds and The King's Schools and at Canterbury Christchurch University College. He works internationally as a performer at concerts, festivals and clubs, playing anything from baroque harpsichord to jazz piano.