

Overall result: **Distinction****Mozart: Alla Turca (3rd movt from Sonata in A, K. 331)****26/30**

A brisk tempo was well-chosen to elicit the cheery character of this Rondo movement. Articulation was sometimes too abrupt for the context, whilst more tapering at ends of phrases was possible. Nevertheless, there were some dynamic contrasts and most of the semiquaver running sequences were evenly presented, despite a couple of small lapses in the precision of hand synchronisation. More musical shaping was achievable, but the momentum and upbeat characterisation were maintained.

Joe Hisaishi: il porco rosso (from Porco Rosso)**26/30**

Flowing lightly, this enjoyed a clear and gentle momentum, reflecting the relaxed mood of the music. It was in need of more depth of expression in its soaring phrases, whilst the right hand melodic lines could have more persuasively rung out with a clearer and more plaintive tone. The musical sweep of the phrases could have used rubato to greater effect, but there was an effective change of pace and mood for the swing feel section and, overall, there was an air of sincerity to the delivery.

Sherwin & Maschwitz: A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square, arr. Iles**28/30**

There was sensitivity in the approach and the gentle mood was captured. Some of the pedalling could have been more carefully negotiated to avoid blurs of harmony, whilst scope existed for an even greater wealth of dynamic and tonal inflections. Nevertheless, it benefited from a flexible approach and phrases enjoyed some gracefully controlled arching and contouring of the lines.

Joplin: Maple Leaf Rag**27/30**

Vibrancy and spirit were injected into the rhythmic figures and a lively speed was established at the outset. There were a few smudged notes and chords and, in these moments textures were less ideally clear, whilst yet more lift and emphasis was possible for full characterful impact, but there was a confident sense of continuous progress with mostly close observation of the marked details.

Performance as a whole**27/30**

The programme was presented with wholehearted commitment, showing engagement with a contrasting musical styles. It was a nicely paced performance, and the sequencing was effective. A greater awareness of texture could have enhanced the impact further, particularly in Il Porco Rosso by Hisaishi, whilst not all of the technical challenges were met in Mozart's Alla Turca. As a result, this tended to detract from some of the musical effectiveness of the playing, despite a feeling of performance and a sense of occasion.

Pass 100 | Merit 120 | Distinction 130

Total mark: **134/150**