

Cello Graduation Level 3

Danse Rustique - Rubric

1) focus and concentration

- articulates the ABA form of the piece
- maintains focus through a longer and more complex piece
- maintains focus on increasingly complex patterns of bowing and fingering

2) posture

- relaxed posture with weight firmly on the pelvis, head tall with a feeling of connection from the top of the head to the base of the chair.
- demonstrates a gentle and natural body motion that complements the action of the up and down bow movements
- demonstrates well established coordination between left hand and bow
- maintains posture and balanced technique in frequent shifting

3) bow arm - tone

- demonstrates precise control of the bow at all points from frog to tip
- bow can dance with small staccato notes off the string
- bow can cut and sink into the string drawing a beautiful legato tone
- maintains balanced arm weight - moves balanced arm weight from string to string in frequent string crossings
- changes sound and bowing style in contrasting sections
- demonstrates the ability to clearly articulate a wide variety of patterns of mixed separate and slurred notes
- maintains elasticity of wrist and fingers in rapid string crossings

4) left hand

- demonstrates light and quick playing with fingers dropping precisely from strong base knuckles
- demonstrates control of vibrato varying the width from narrow to wide to produce an exciting sound
- demonstrates accuracy and freedom of shifting through all the neck position

5) musicianship

- demonstrates an understanding of ternary form (ABA)
- demonstrates an awareness of pulse (beat), harmonic rhythm and melodic rhythm as 3 separate but related things
- demonstrates a wide range of dynamics both between f and p and beyond
- demonstrates ability to place ornaments on and before the beat as stylistically appropriate
- effectively articulates the change of sections with an appropriate breath or a well timed ritard
- demonstrates the ability to play with a bravura style
- maintains awareness of how the accompaniment fits with the solo part

- leads the accompaniment rather than following it