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### Trinity's Singing syllabus

Our 2018-2022 Singing syllabus has performance at its heart. It offers the choice and flexibility to allow singers to perform to their strengths, enabling them to gain recognition for their own unique skills as performers.

#### The music you want to sing

Learners can progress in their own musical style by choosing from extensive and varied lists of songs carefully selected by our singing experts.

#### The performer you want to be

Our performance-grounded technical work and supporting tests are specifically designed to develop learners' skills through the music they perform.

#### The support you need

Digital learner and teacher support resources are available at **trinitycollege.com/singing-resources**. Join us via our website and social media for the full music experience and to find out when new resources are available.

#### The recognition you deserve

Learners are assessed through an externally regulated and internationally recognised exam system, with a 140-year heritage you can trust.

### The 2018-2022 syllabus

- Refreshed repertoire of over 1,000 songs allows singers to perform in a range of styles and languages
- Revised song groupings let singers specialise in their preferred musical styles with enough choice to ensure they become versatile performers
- A choice of four supporting tests and flexible performance options, including using backing tracks up to Grade 3 and no requirement to perform from memory, give singers the flexibility to demonstrate their individual strengths
- Specially designed technical exercises allow singers to develop vocal technique through performance
- New graded songbooks, with teaching notes, translations, recordings of the piano accompaniments, and audio pronunciation guides, provide singers with exciting repertoire for every level
- A book of newly composed vocal exercises supports singers to develop correct vocal technique across pitch and tone, rhythm, and diction

### Recognition and UCAS points

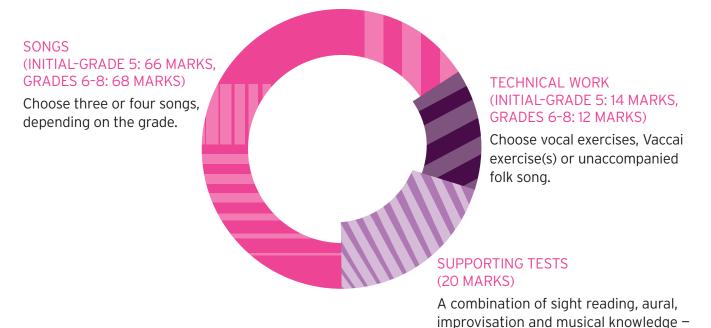
Trinity College London is an international exam board regulated by Ofqual (Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation) in England, CCEA Regulation in Northern Ireland and by Qualifications Wales. Various arrangements are in place with governmental education authorities worldwide.

In the UK, Grades 6-8 are eligible for UCAS points for those applying to colleges and universities.

DOWNLOAD OUR SINGING SYLLABUS 2018-2022: trinitycollege.com/singing

### About the exam

Each exam has three components: songs, technical work and supporting tests. There are slightly different requirements depending on the level of the exam.



#### Songs

Candidates can demonstrate their individual musical identity by choosing songs from extensive repertoire lists.

Flexible performance options are available: backing tracks can be used up to Grade 3, there's no requirement to sing from memory, songs can be sung in any key (except opera/oratorio), and candidates can perform an own composition in place of one of the listed songs.

depending on grade and candidate choice.

#### **INITIAL-GRADE 5**

Candidates choose three songs from the lists. Except at Initial, songs are divided into groups based on style and genre. There are few restrictions on song choice: up to two songs can be chosen from any group and there are no compulsory groups. The lists include repertoire from musical theatre and film, as well as a wide range of songs and folk songs, and options to sing in other languages.

#### **GRADES 6-8**

Candidates choose four songs from the lists. Songs are divided into groups based on style and genre, with few limitations on choice. 'Group A: Songs in a dramatic context' encompasses songs ranging from 17th century opera through to tunes from the latest West End and Broadway shows. Other groups cover songs in English, as well as German Lied, French mélodie and songs in other languages.

#### Technical work

This section of the exam builds an assured vocal proficiency by developing specific skills progressively through the grades. Each option also encourages musical and expressive singing, as the techniques are embedded within pieces of music which have words that need to be communicated effectively.

#### **VOCAL EXERCISES**

Vocal exercises focus on the mastery of pitch accuracy and dynamic gradation, rhythmic precision and careful diction, with a contemporary feel to the language and musical idiom.

#### VACCAI EXERCISE(S)

The Vaccai exercises focus on strengthening the core of the voice, developing confidence in managing intervals and encouraging clarity and accuracy of articulation and diction in the Italian language.

#### UNACCOMPANIED FOLK SONG

The unaccompanied folk songs focus on control of pitch and pulse, ensuring that key centre and flow are maintained while conveying a specific story, character or mood.

#### Supporting tests

This section of the exam supports the development of broader musical skills by assessing candidates in two different supporting tests. At Initial to Grade 5, candidates choose two supporting tests from sight reading, aural, improvisation and musical knowledge. At Grades 6-8, candidates are assessed in sight reading, and choose either aural or improvisation for their second supporting test.

This flexibility is designed to allow candidates to demonstrate their musical skills in different ways, while recognising that sight reading is an important skill at higher grades.

#### SIGHT READING

Designed to be musically intuitive and natural, preparing candidates for performance contexts

Candidates perform a previously unseen musical extract, at a level approximately two grades lower than the exam being taken.

#### **AURAL**

Supports the development of candidates' abilities in musical perception and understanding At most grades, candidates are asked to describe various features of the music such as dynamics, articulation, texture and style.

#### **IMPROVISATION**

Develops creative musicianship skills that unlock a variety of musical styles and technical ability

This test assesses candidates' ability to improvise fluently, coherently and creatively in response to a musical stimulus, which can be stylistic, motivic or harmonic at the candidate's choice.

#### MUSICAL KNOWLEDGE

Encourages candidates to understand the wider musical context of the songs they perform, as well as to develop their knowledge of notation and the voice

The examiner asks carefully graded questions based on the candidate's chosen songs.

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#### Mark scheme

INITIAL-GRADE 5	Maximum marks
SONG 1	22
SONG 2	22
SONG 3	22
TECHNICAL WORK	14
ONE of the following:  Vocal exercises  Vaccai exercise  Unaccompanied folk  SUPPORTING TESTS	s song <b>20</b>
Any TWO of the following  Sight reading  Aural  Improvisation  Musical knowledge	
TOTAL	100

GRADES 6-8	Maximum marks
SONG 1	17
SONG 2	17
SONG 3	17
SONG 4	17
TECHNICAL WORK	12
<ul><li>ONE of the following:</li><li>Vocal exercises</li><li>Vaccai exercise(s)</li><li>Unaccompanied following:</li></ul>	( song
SUPPORTING TEST 1	10
Sight reading SUPPORTING TEST 2	10
ONE of the following:  Aural Improvisation	100
TOTAL	100

MARK	BAND
87-100	DISTINCTION
75-86	MERIT
60-74	PASS
45-59	BELOW PASS 1
0-44	BELOW PASS 2

# Trinity's graded songbooks

Trinity's graded songbooks offer a complete solution for the repertoire part of the exam, providing singing candidates with attractive and contrasting songs with which to form a programme. Please refer to the current syllabus for the full list of songs.



# Singing: Initial (Trinity TCL 016805\*)

TRAD. arr. WRIGHT

ANDERSON

Elephant
Whales – Swimming Free
Korimako, Bellbird
Food (from <i>Ev'ryday Things</i> )
My Mother Said
Earth Folk
Two Little Men in a Flying Saucer
Albatross Flying So High
Cradle Song
Bound for South Australia
My Father's Garden
Oats and Beans and Barley Grow
Sur le pont d'Avignon

I Know Where I'm Going

Winter



### Singing: Grade 1 (Trinity TCL 016812\*)

CARTER One More Step Along the World I Go

CRAWLEY We Can Make a Difference

DAWSON The Magic Night

EXLEY Hop Bird (from Four Small Songs)

FRASER Fishing

HAMILTON Cakes (from *Just Desserts*)

HARRIS My Uncle Rumbold LENNOX Albatross (Toroa)

MARSH Seagull

PARKE Over the Hills and Far Away
ROBERTON The Cat and the Fiddle
ROWLEY The Grandfather Clock

TRAD. The Overlander

TRAD. arr. ELKIN The Bouquet of Rosemary WESTCOTT Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star



### Singing: Grade 2 (Trinity TCL 016829\*)

ANDERSON Evening in Autumn
BAYNON The Spanish Main
BURTCH The World's End
COGHLAN & COGHLAN Rocking in Rhythm
CRAWLEY Abdul, the Magician

CRAWLEY Grizelda EXLEY A Fly

HAMILTON Chocolate (from *Just Desserts*)

NELSON Ghosts in the Belfry ROBERTON Westering Home SKEMPTON Pigs Could Fly

TELFER On the Back of an Eagle

THIMAN The Skylark
TRAD. arr. O'NEILL Farewell, Lad
VINE Love Me Sweet



# Singing: Grade 3

(TCL 016836\*)

ARMSTRONG GIBBS When I Was One-and-Twenty

CHILCOTT Irish Blessing
COWLES Lurking in the Pond

EXLEY Peacocks
GLANVILLE-HICKS Come Sleep
HARRIS Villanelle

HIGGINSON From a Railway Carriage

HYDE The Apple Tree PLUMSTEAD Close Thine Eyes

THORNE Cool Cat (from The Cat's Whiskers)

TRAD. arr. WRIGHT El vito

TRAD. arr. WRIGHT The Gartán Mother's Lullaby



#### Singing: Grade 4 (TCL 016843\*)

COPE

**FOSTER** Jeannie with the Light Brown Hair

**PARRY** Career Paths Dinah's Song **ROFE** 

**SCARLATTI** O cessate di piagarmi

**SCHUMANN** Schneeglöckchen (Snowdrops), op. 79 no. 27

The Man in the Moon THIMAN

Nine Lives (from *The Cat's Whiskers*) **THORNE** 

TRAD. arr. JOYCE The Leprehaun TRAD. arr. O'LEARY Moreton Bay

The Lark in the Clear Air TRAD. arr. TATE

TRAD. arr. WECKERLIN Jeune fillette



### Singing: Grade 5 (TCL 016850\*)

**BOULANGER** 

Cantique Come Live with Me and Be My Love **BULLARD** 

**CAMPION** Fair, If You Expect Admiring

Fear No More the Heat o' the Sun (from Cymbeline) HIGGINSON

Der Blumenstrauss (The Nosegay) MENDELSSOHN

**MOZART** Oiseau, si tous les ans (Ariette, K. 307 (284d)) QUILTER By the Sea (from Songs of the Sea, op. 1)

**REGER** Waldeinsamkeit (The Quiet of the Woods), op. 76 no. 3

STOVE Lullaby

My Lagan Love TRAD. arr. HARTY

VIVALDI arr. HOLLOWAY Vieni, vieni o mio diletto

**WILSON** The Phoenix



#### Singing: Grade 6

(TCL 016867\* [high voice], TCL 017949\* [low voice])

ARMSTRONG GIBBS The Cherry Tree

**CUNNINGHAM** Summer **ELWYN-EDWARDS** Gaeaf (Winter)

**HAHN** Quand je fus pris au pavillon

The Lamb **KEATS** 

L'ESTRANGE Now Sleeps the Crimson Petal

**MOZART** Das Veilchen

RIGHINI T'intendo, si, mio cor

TRAD. arr. HUGHES She Moved through the Fair

Over the Mountains TRAD. arr. QUILTER



## Singing: Grade 7

(TCL 016874\* [high voice], TCL 017956\* [low voice])

BENNETT Jewels

DRING Crabbed Age and Youth
IRELAND If There Were Dreams to Sell
MENDELSSOHN Schilflied, op. 71 no. 4

MENDELSSOHN-HENSEL Nachtwanderer

ROE Stop All the Clocks ('Funeral Blues')

ROREM The Nightingale
SAINT-SAËNS Chanson triste
STANFORD The Fairy Lough
STOVE Love Song



#### Singing: Grade 8

(TCL 016881\* [high voice], TCL 017963\* [low voice])

ARGENTO Dirge (from Six Elizabethan Songs)

CHABRIER Villanelle des petits canards

DEBUSSY Nuit d'étoiles
DRING A Bay in Anglesey

GURNEY Spring

MCDOWALL If There Are Angels

MENDELSSOHN Herbstlied

OBRADORS Del cabello más sutil (from Dos cantares populares)

SCHOENBERG Arie aus dem Spiegel von Arcadien VILLETTE II est des mots d'amour, op. 11

# Sample songs





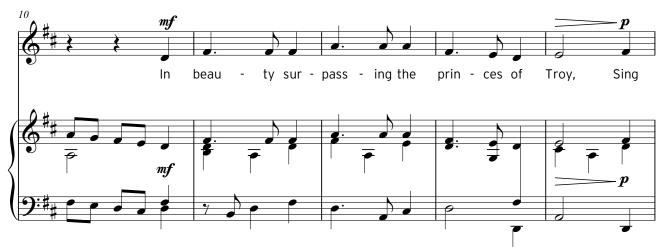
# **Cradle Song**

Anon.

Nicholas Strogers (16th century)







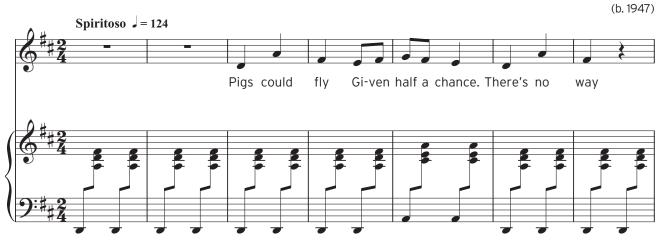


## Grade 2

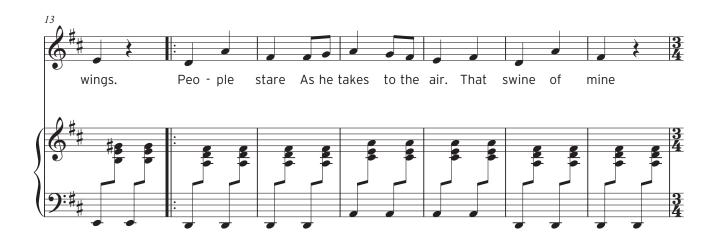


# **Pigs Could Fly**

Words and music by Howard Skempton (b. 1947)





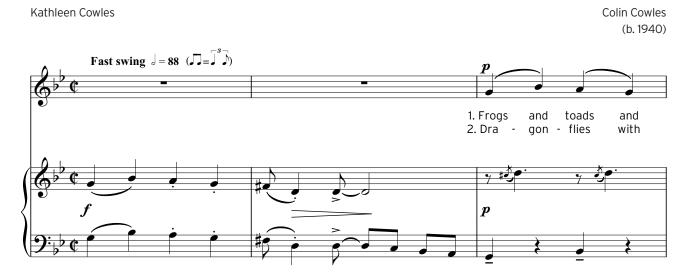


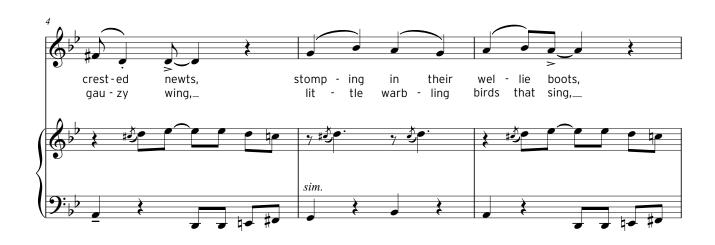


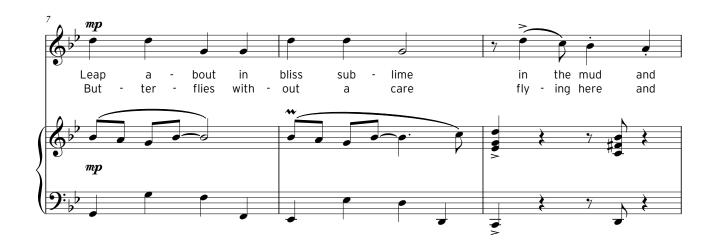
# Grade 3



# Lurking in the Pond













# Grade 6 – High voice



# T'intendo, si, mio cor

I feel it, my heart your fast beat! I know you want to groan, the lover that you are.

Ah! Conceal your pain. Ah! Bear your torture. Withhold, and do not be unfaithful to my feelings!





### Grade 8 – Low voice



## Nuit d'étoiles

Starry night, beneath your veils, beneath your scented breeze, a sad lyre sighs, I dream of past love. Serene melancholy reaches the depth of my heart, and I hear my beloved's soul trembling in the dreamy wood.







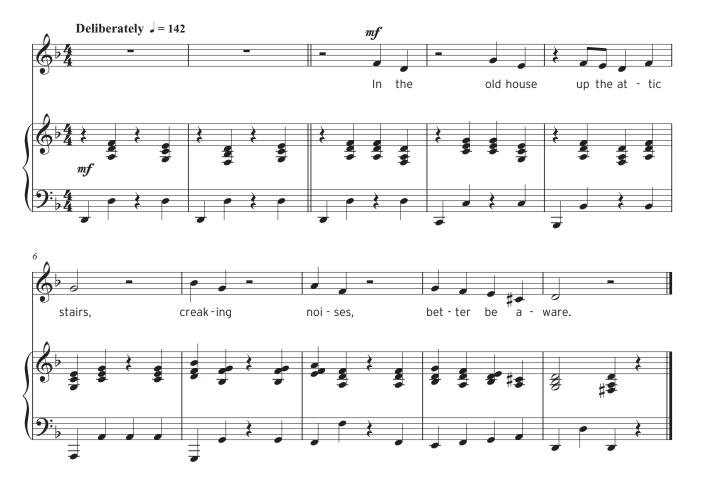


# Sample exercises

Trinity's *Vocal Exercises (Initial-Grade 8) from 2018* provides singers with exercises across three areas: pitch and tone, rhythm, and diction. The exercises help develop key performance-based technical skills needed by vocalists.

# Grade 1

## **a. Spooky!** – pitch and tone (3rds)



# **b. Riding the Waves** – rhythm (quavers, crotchets and dotted crotchets)



## **c. Swallows Flying** – diction (crisp consonants with neat articulation)



# Grade 6 – High voice

# a. The Sleeping Giant – pitch and tone (7ths)



### Contributors

Trinity works with a range of contributors when creating new syllabuses and accompanying books and audio. A panel of experts makes sure that all chosen songs match the criteria, and are engaging and varied. For this syllabus, the panel was led by Luise Horrocks.

After studies at Oxford University and the Royal College of Music, **Luise Horrocks**' career as a professional soloist (soprano) took her across the UK, Europe, America and South Africa. She has held teaching positions in both the Junior and Senior departments of the Birmingham Conservatoire and as a visiting lecturer at Birmingham University. She runs an extensive private teaching practice and works as a vocal coach on residential courses. She has also trained and conducted the Wyre Forest Young Voices choir and has adjudicated for The British and International Federation of Festivals. Luise is a consultant and senior examiner for Trinity.

To produce the accompanying piano recordings, we worked with Pamela Lidiard (Initial-Grade 5) and Yulia Chaplina (Grades 6-8):

**Pamela Lidiard** is deputy head of keyboard studies at the Guildhall School of Music & Drama. As well as teaching and coaching pianists and singers, she co-ordinates the postgraduate course for accompanists. She is a past editor of the EPTA UK magazine *Piano Professional*, and has been involved with Trinity's piano exams for several years in various roles.

**Yulia Chaplina** gave her debut performance aged seven, performing Bach's *Keyboard Concerto in F minor* with the Rostov State Symphony Orchestra. Since then, she has performed extensively all over the world, including as a soloist at the Berlin Philharmonie, and she has won first prize in piano competitions in Poland, France, Andorra, Ukraine and Russia. She has received awards from the Menuhin and Hindemith Foundations in Germany and the Mstislav Rostropovich Foundation in Russia. Yulia was a Mills Williams Junior Fellow at the Royal College of Music in 2012/2013.

Christopher Dixon was an adviser on the recording of these accompaniments. He also recorded many of the pronunciation guides included on the accompanying CDs:

**Christopher Dixon** read Modern and Medieval Languages at Clare College, Cambridge before studying Opera Performance at the Royal Academy of Music and the National Opera Studio. He has sung the title role in Tchaikovsky's *Eugene Onegin* for Welsh National Opera at Cardiff's Millennium Centre, and the title role in Mozart's *Don Giovanni* conducted by the late Sir Colin Davis. He has also sung solo roles for Glyndebourne Festival Opera, Scottish Opera and the BBC Proms. Christopher is a freelance opera and concert singer and an experienced singing teacher.

The exercises featured in Vocal Exercises (Initial-Grade 8) from 2018 were written and composed for this syllabus by Emily Barden and Jeff Leach:

**Emily Barden** is a singer-songwriter, composer and performer who runs many adult community choirs, as well as working with national music organisations providing vocal consultancy to music hubs and teachers.

**Jeff Leach** is an accomplished pianist, keyboard player, producer and arranger. He has worked with a variety of artists, touring and recording.

### Certificate and theory exams

Trinity's certificate exams, for solo singers and choirs, provide an alternative to graded music exams, focusing solely on performance. Structured as a mini-recital, the candidate is given the choice and flexibility to put together a programme from a wide repertoire list and can include own-choice songs and their own compositions. Certificate exams are available at Foundation, Intermediate and Advanced levels. Visit trinitycollege.com/music-certificates for full details.

Theory exams are available from Grade 1 to support learners to develop their understanding of the technical language of music. However, no theory qualifications or other prerequisites are required to enter graded or certificate exams at any level. Find more information about theory exams at trinitycollege.com/theory

### Repertoire books and support publications

Trinity offers high-quality publications to support candidates through the entire learning process. Find these, as well as publications by other publishers, at **trinitycollege.com/shop** 

# Singing: Exam Songs & Teaching Notes 2018-2022

Available for singing for the first time, these books contain a selection of songs carefully chosen, graded and edited by a panel of experts. Teaching notes are included for each song, giving valuable insights to help with exam preparation. Also included is a CD with recordings of all the piano accompaniments, as well as a spoken pronunciation guide for all song texts.

Encompassing a wide range of styles and genres at every grade, this progressive series provides a wealth of engaging repertoire for any singer.

### Vocal Exercises (Initial-Grade 8)

Written by vocalist Emily Barden, with accompaniments composed and performed by pianist Jeff Leach, our new vocal exercises have been specially written to develop vocal technique across three areas: pitch and tone, rhythm, and diction.

These short, fun songs target the techniques specifically required of vocalists in a performance-based context, making them ideal preparation for the exam and stage performances.

### Sing Musical Theatre

This series for Foundation and Intermediate levels features songs from a range of shows, with background and performance notes, singing tips and exercises. The books also include a backing track CD.



### Join us online

Get the full music experience online at trinitycollege.com/singing-resources

Digital resources are available to support learning, including advice and content on:

- Songs, performance and technique
- Supporting tests
- Technical work

You can access:

- Bite-sized videos to support the syllabus
- Practice resources for learners
- Tips for teachers

You can contact the music support team at Trinity's central office at music@trinitycollege.com, or find the contact details of your local representative at trinitycollege.com/worldwide





