

## **NCO audition excerpts**

### **Cello: Under 13 orchestra**

Cellists applying for the residential orchestras who take part in Orchestral Weeks and who are aged 12 on 31st August should prepare the following orchestral excerpts in addition to your pieces. You will need to prepare and record all of the excerpts in this document.

These orchestral excerpts are short passages from standard NCO repertoire designed to test certain qualities of your playing. They will help the audition adjudicators establish how different players approach the same repertoire and make our audition process as fair as possible for instruments where we receive a larger quantity of applications.

It is important you practice them as much as your pieces as they are equally important.

There are metronome markings/tempo indications on each excerpt - these are there simply as a guide - please play the excerpts at a speed that is comfortable for you and where you can get the greatest accuracy.

### **Preparing your excerpts**

Our NCO cello tutor Hetty Snell has recorded a video to support your practise.

[Top Tips Video from Hetty](#)

She has also included links to YouTube recordings above each excerpt in this document so you can listen to how they sound. Don't worry if the speed of the YouTube recordings are different to the metronome marks given. Please prepare your excerpts at the metronome/tempo indications given or at the most comfortable speed for you.

### **Recording and submitting your excerpts**

Excerpts must be recorded and submitted as a separate video to your pieces. For details of how to record and submit your audition please refer to the [Auditions Handbook](#).

# Strauss - *Die Fledermaus*, 'Overture'

[Listen Here](#) - 2:50

$\text{♩} = 70$  Tempo di valse

122  $pp$  *cresc. molto*

126  $f$  *staccato*  $p$

131  $f$   $p$   $f$   $mf$

136  $f$   $f$  II  $f$

Detailed description: This musical score is for the bass line of the 'Overture' from Strauss's 'Die Fledermaus'. It is in 3/4 time with a tempo of 70 beats per minute, marked 'Tempo di valse'. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The score is divided into four systems. The first system (measures 122-125) starts with a piano (*pp*) dynamic and a 'cresc. molto' (crescendo molto) marking. The second system (measures 126-130) begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic and a 'staccato' marking, followed by a piano (*p*) dynamic. The third system (measures 131-135) features dynamics of *f*, *p*, *f*, and *mf*. The fourth system (measures 136-140) starts with *f*, has a double bar line, then continues with *f*, and ends with a second ending marked 'II' and *f*. Fingerings and breath marks are indicated throughout.

# Tchaikovsky - *The Nutcracker*, 'No.14 Pas de Deux'

[Listen Here](#) - From start

$\text{♩} = 52$  Andante maestoso

$ff$   $f$   $mf$

$ff$   $mf$   $3$

$ff$   $mf$  *cresc.* **68**

$f$

Detailed description: This musical score is for the bass line of 'No. 14 Pas de Deux' from Tchaikovsky's 'The Nutcracker'. It is in 3/8 time with a tempo of 52 beats per minute, marked 'Andante maestoso'. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The score is divided into four systems. The first system (measures 1-4) starts with a fortissimo (*ff*) dynamic, followed by *f* and *mf*. The second system (measures 5-8) begins with *ff*, then *mf*, and ends with a triplet of eighth notes. The third system (measures 9-12) starts with *ff*, then *mf*, and includes a 'cresc.' (crescendo) marking and a boxed measure number '68'. The fourth system (measures 13-16) ends with a forte (*f*) dynamic. Fingerings and breath marks are indicated throughout.

Rimsky-Korsakov - *Scheherazade*, movement 3

[Listen Here](#) - 1:38

♩ = 132

*pp* dolce e espressivo

*cresc.* *f*

*dolce*