

University of Iowa Jazz Studies Program

JAZZ DRUM SET AUDITION - UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

Prepared Piece

Perform a prepared piece of the student's choice. This could be a jazz drum set transcription, a published drum set solo, a big band chart along with a recording, or a concert/rudimental snare drum etude.

Independence/Coordination

Demonstrate fundamental 4-way coordination skills in a swing setting by playing comping exercises from either of the following texts (or similar):

- "The Art of Bop Drumming" (John Riley)
- "Systems" (Ari Hoenig)
- "Melodic Systems" (Michael D'Angelo)

Jazz Styles

Demonstrate familiarity and appropriate feels for the following styles in both timekeeping and trading (4 or 8 measure phrases):

- Swing (q=120–160)
- Funk/Hip Hop (q=90–110)
- Brazilian styles: Bossa Nova (q=120–140) or Samba (q=110–130)
- Afro-Cuban styles: Mambo (q=90–110) or 12/8 (q=104–124)
- 3/4 Waltz (q=130–170)

Jazz Standard

Choose a jazz standard and present the tune unaccompanied in the following format:

- Play and orchestrate the melody around the drums.
- Play time and comp over the form using the melody as a guide for 1 chorus*.
- Improvise over the form of the tune for 1 chorus*.
- Restate the melody with an appropriate ending.

*2 choruses for short-form compositions (12 or 16 measures)

Sightreading

Sight read a standard big band chart taking into account written figures, directions, dynamics, and interpreting the chart typical of playing in a large jazz ensemble.

Questions? Please email Dr. Michael D'Angelo at michael-dangelo@uiowa.edu.