

TRANSITION ACTIVITIES FOR A-LEVEL MUSIC

TASK 1

Complete an interpretation of the song 'Summertime' (originally written by George Gershwin for the musical Porgy and Bess in 1935) it has been performed and recorded thousands of times in a multitude of different styles.

This performance should be personal to you and does not need to be radically strange or unusual, but I would like it to be authentic.

You will perform the interpretation in class at the first week of 6th form.



TASK 2

Compose a simple jazz or rock and pop song, this should include a minimum of two sections ie Verse Chorus and lyrics unless you are composing an instrumental. You should write a score or tab or lead sheet to go with your composition and preferably bring a 'bounced' mp3 of your track to college in the first week.

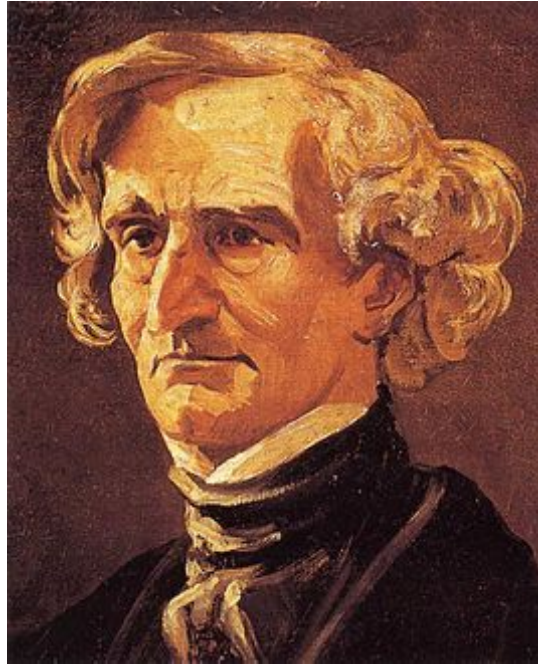
Note, Vocal/piano or small jazz ensemble is perfectly acceptable, you do not need to write for a swing band or full rock band and orchestra....but don't let me stop you if that's what you want to do.



TASK 3

Listen to Berlioz 'Symphonie Fantastique' an important romantic symphony from the Western Classical tradition first performed in 1830.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sK4dz6Gbcdk>



Now watch and listen to the Aurora Orchestra and Nicolas Collon do their fantastic interpretation and breakdown of the symphony

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FqTU8m8BJwQ&t=1s>

Write a 1,000 word essay on one of the following aspects of the symphony;

- Use of Instrumentation in the symphony
- Use of Harmony and Melody in the symphony
- The 'program' aspects of the symphony.



Please bring your completed essay to college for the first week.