

# Music Composition

LEVEL : NOVICE

ENTRANT #: \_\_\_\_\_

ENTRY #: \_\_\_\_\_

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ENTRY: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please use the following evaluation scale** (circle one for each criterion below):

- N** Needs further refinement for expectations of a Novice  
**S** Slight refinement needed for expectations of a Novice  
**M** Meets expectations of a Novice.  
**A** Above expectations of a Novice.  
**E** Exceeds expectations of a Novice.

## DOCUMENTATION:

Circle Evaluation Result Given: N S M A E

*Includes complete information relating to the pre-17<sup>th</sup> theoretical and compositional practices used for the entry as well as other information pertinent to the entry for use by judges.* Has the entrant indicated the provenance of the style used? Did the entrant cite pre-17<sup>th</sup> century sources &/or examples relating to the stylistic considerations of the entry? What would have been the historic use(s) of the work? Has the entrant explained the rationale for performance considerations (i.e., parts, ranges, voicing &/or instrumentation)? Has the composition process, including any necessary theoretical considerations, been thoroughly explained? Have citations &/or references been included? Was the documentation organized and legible?

## COMPLEXITY &/OR DIFFICULTY:

Circle Evaluation Result Given: N S M A E

*Assessment of the scope, ambition, and difficulty of the entry.* How many parts (voices) are presented? Are the musical lines simple or complex in structure? Does the work contain multiple sections? What is the overall intended scope of the composition?

## WORKMANSHIP:

Circle Evaluation Result Given: N S M A E

*The skills used and the resulting quality of work in producing the entry.* How well has the entrant maintained stylistic and/or contrapuntal techniques appropriate to the stated stylistic provenance of the entry? Has the entrant produced a good, unified piece? Was the score legible and accurate (i.e., could the piece be easily sight-read by competent performers)? If applicable, has the composer followed an appropriate progression of horizontal and vertical sonorities? Overall, is the composition consistent in quality and technique throughout?

## ÆSTHETIC QUALITIES:

Circle Evaluation Result Given: N S M A E

*The overall aesthetic effect and appeal of the entry, as perceived by the judges.* Does the work flow appropriately? Would the mood and tone of the work produce any effect(s) intended by the composer? Overall, would the progression and sound of the work have been accepted by trained listeners contemporary to the stated stylistic provenance of the entry?

## AUTHENTICITY:

Circle Evaluation Result Given: N S M A E

*How closely the entrant followed pre-17<sup>th</sup> century techniques and how nearly the entrant achieved a piece that would not have been out of place in a pre-17<sup>th</sup> century cultural setting.* How closely did the entrant make use of appropriate pre-17<sup>th</sup> century musical theory and compositional practices? Do the mode(s), style, range(s) of part(s), proposed tempo(s), text underlay (if any), and harmonic structure of the entry follow pre-17<sup>th</sup> century practices appropriate to the entrant's stated stylistic provenance? Is the composition stylistically appropriate? Overall, would the entry have been accepted by composers &/or theorists contemporary to the stated stylistic origin of the entry?

## CREATIVITY:

Circle Evaluation Result Given: N S M A E

*The extent of the entrant's adaptation of materials, tools, methods, processes, etc., in production of the entry, and the entrant's effort to produce a unique entry.* Has the entrant reproduced a similar pre-17<sup>th</sup> century work with little variation, or has the entrant created a new work using techniques and styles related to the stated stylistic provenance of the work? Has the entrant "personalized" the work by providing appropriate musical embellishment (including *ficta & recta*)?

