

Bass Graduation Level 3

Marcello Sonata in e minor - Adagio (1st mov't) and Allegro (2nd mov't) - Rubric

1) focus and concentration

- brings out contrast between the two movements
- maintains focus through a longer and more complex piece
- maintains focus on increasingly complex patterns of bowing and fingering

2) posture

- relaxed posture in standing position, balanced erect body frame
- demonstrates a gentle and natural body motion that complements the action of the up and down bow movements
- demonstrates well established coordination between left hand and bow
- maintains posture and balanced technique in frequent shifting

3) bow arm - tone

- demonstrates precise control of the bow at all points from frog to tip
- draws a beautiful legato tone in first movement
- bell like tone in second movement
- maintains balanced arm weight - moves balanced arm weight from string to string in frequent string crossings
- balances bow in string crossing passages to bring out melody notes
- changes sound and bowing style between movements and in contrasting sections
- demonstrates the ability to clearly articulate a wide variety of patterns of mixed separate and slurred notes
- maintains relaxed wrist and arm weight in rapid string crossings

4) left hand

- demonstrates light and quick playing accurately dropping curled fingers
- demonstrates clear left hand action in trills
- demonstrates control of vibrato varying the width from narrow to wide to produce an exciting sound
- demonstrates accuracy and freedom of shifting through all positions
- demonstrates hand position change from neck positions to thumb position
- demonstrates finger dexterity with scale passages, shifting and changing strings

5) musicianship

- demonstrates an understanding of Adagio and Allegro
- demonstrates an awareness of pulse (beat), harmonic rhythm and melodic rhythm as 3 separate but related things
- demonstrates an awareness of melodic line vs accompanying notes and ornaments
- shapes phrases with dynamics
- demonstrates ability to play stylistically appropriate ornaments
- maintains awareness of how the accompaniment fits with the solo part

- leads the accompaniment rather than following it