

HOUSTON SYMPHONY

SUBSTITUTE CELLO
November 6, 2025
Jones Hall Stage

Audition Repertoire List

I. SOLO REPERTOIRE

Candidate’s choice of a standard concerto, first movement (no cadenza)

II. ORCHESTRAL EXCERPTS

BEETHOVEN	Symphony No. 5	Mvmt. II, measures 1 – 10, 49 – 59, 98 – 106 Mvmt. III, measures 140 – 213 (no repeat)
BRAHMS	Symphony No. 2	Mvmt. II, beginning to end of measure 15
DEBUSSY	<i>La mer</i>	2m. before 9 – 6m. after 9 (top line)
W.A. MOZART	Symphony No. 35	Mvmt. IV, measures 134 – 181
PROKOFIEV	Symphony No. 5*	Mvmt. IV, 79 – 80 (top line)
R. STRAUSS	<i>Ein Heldenleben</i>	Beginning to 4 measures after 2
VERDI	Requiem	No. 3 Offertorio, measures 1 – 34

III. POSSIBLE SIGHT-READING

* Excerpt provided to candidates.

BEETHOVEN: Symphony No. 5

Movement II

Excerpt 1:

Andante con moto

p dolce *f*

8

p *f* *p*

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for the first excerpt. The top staff shows measures 1 through 7, starting with a bass clef, key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat), and a 3/8 time signature. The tempo is 'Andante con moto'. The dynamics are 'p dolce' (measures 1-4) and 'f' (measures 5-7). The bottom staff shows measures 8 through 10, with dynamics 'p' (measure 8), 'f' (measure 9), and 'p' (measure 10).

Excerpt 2:

p dolce

50

f *p cresc.*

58

f *p*

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for the second excerpt. The top staff shows measures 49 through 57, with a dynamic of 'p dolce' at the end. The bottom staff shows measures 50 through 57, with dynamics 'f' and 'p cresc.'. The second staff shows measures 58 through 60, with dynamics 'f' and 'p'.

Excerpt 3:

p dolce

100

104

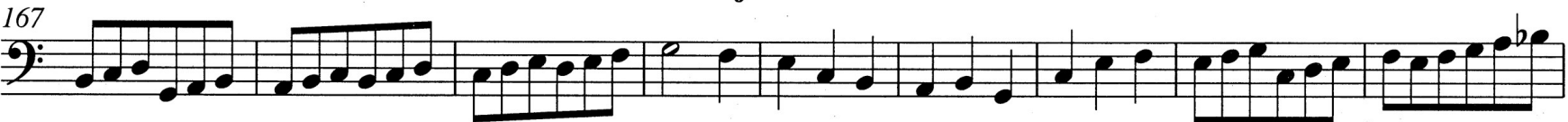
pp

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for the third excerpt. The top staff shows measures 99 through 103, with a dynamic of 'p dolce'. The bottom staff shows measures 100 through 103, and the second staff shows measures 104 through 107, with a dynamic of 'pp'.

BEETHOVEN: Symphony No. 5

Movement III

[no repeat]



BRAHMS: Symphony No. 2

Movement II

Adagio non troppo

poco f espr.

6

12

poco f

dim.

p

This image shows the first 12 measures of the second movement of Johannes Brahms' Symphony No. 2. The music is written for a single staff in bass clef, with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 12/8 time signature. The tempo is marked 'Adagio non troppo'. The first measure is marked 'poco f espr.' and features a series of eighth notes with slurs. The second measure is marked '6' and continues the melodic line. The third measure is marked '12' and shows a change in the melodic pattern. The fourth measure is marked 'poco f' and features a more complex rhythmic pattern. The fifth measure is marked 'dim.' and shows a decrease in volume. The sixth measure is marked 'p' and features a final melodic phrase. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and dynamic markings.

DEBUSSY: La Mer

I. De l'aube à midi sur la mer

Un peu plus mouvementé

9

1-2 3-4 5-6 7-8 9-10-11-12 13-14 15-16

p sfz p *mf f* *p*

16 *très rythmé* *velles* 5-6

p sfz p *mf f* *p*

mf f ff dim.

mf f ff dim.

p

The musical score is for the first movement of Debussy's 'La Mer', 'De l'aube à midi sur la mer'. It begins with a tempo instruction 'Un peu plus mouvementé' and a measure number '9' in a box. The score is written for piano in 4/4 time, with a key signature of two flats (B-flat major). The first system covers measures 9 to 16. Measures 9-15 are marked with dynamics *p*, *sfz*, *p*, *mf*, *f*, and *p*. Measure 16 is marked '16 très rythmé velles 5-6'. The second system continues from measure 16, with dynamics *mf*, *f*, *ff*, and *dim.*. The third system continues the 'très rythmé' section, also marked with *mf*, *f*, *ff*, and *dim.*. The fourth system shows the piano introduction, marked with *p*. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, accents, and fingerings.

MOZART: Symphony No. 35

Movement IV

Presto

134

139

p

147

152 *f*

158

163

168

173

178

sf *sf*

PROKOFIEV: Symphony No. 5

Movement IV

79 Poco più tranquillo

div. a4

The musical score is written for four staves, labeled 'div. a4'. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats) and the time signature is 3/2. The tempo marking is 'Poco più tranquillo'. The score begins at measure 79. The first system consists of three measures. The first two measures are marked 'mf espr.' and the third measure is marked 'f' with a fermata. The second system also consists of three measures, starting with 'dim.' and 'p', and ending with 'mf'. The third system consists of two measures, starting with 'mp' and ending with 'p'. The score is written in a standard musical notation with notes, rests, and dynamic markings.

STRAUSS: Ein Heldenleben

Lebhaft bewegt.

The musical score is written for a vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line is in bass clef, 4/4 time, and the piano accompaniment is in 3/4 time. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The tempo is marked "Lebhaft bewegt." (Lively and moving). The score consists of five systems of music. The first system shows the vocal line starting with a forte (f) dynamic. The second system continues the vocal line with a crescendo (cresc.) and a first ending (1). The third system shows the vocal line with a fortissimo (ff) dynamic and a second ending (2). The fourth system shows the piano accompaniment with a piano (pp) dynamic and a crescendo (cresc.). The fifth system shows the piano accompaniment with a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic and a crescendo (cresc.). The piano accompaniment features a "geteilt" (divided) section in the first system, where the left and right hands play different parts. The piano accompaniment also includes trills (tr.) and triplets (3).

VERDI: Requiem

Nr. 3. Offertorio

Andante mosso (♩ = 66)

The musical score is written for a string quartet, with two staves for Violins (treble and bass clefs) and two staves for Violas (treble and bass clefs). The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The tempo is marked *Andante mosso* with a quarter note equal to 66 beats per minute. The score consists of four systems of staves. Measure numbers 9, 19, and 30 are circled at the beginning of their respective systems. The music features various dynamics including *p* (piano), *ppp* (pianissimo), *f* (forte), and *cantabile*. Performance instructions such as *dolce*, *un poco marcato*, and *più marcato* are placed above the staves. The notation includes a variety of note values, rests, and phrasing slurs.