

New Music Alive!

Lesson Eight

Rehearsing and Performing



Strand: *Performing*

Strand Units: *Singing/Playing*

Curriculum Objectives:

- show greater control of pulse (steady beat) and tempo
- perform with increasing awareness of dynamics, expression and control of diction and posture
- reflect upon and evaluate his/her work and the work of other students
- record compositions on electronic media

Concept Development: *Pulse, duration, tempo, pitch, dynamics, structure, timbre, texture*

Recap

5 min

At this stage, the students have created a lot of music. Look back over all your games, warm-ups and compositions and plan a short concert based on the work you have done so far.

Put the students' compositions up on the board or make copies of their pieces as appropriate.

Rehearsal

25 mins

Arrange the room in such a way that the class can play the warm-up games and still be seen when their audience arrives. Games usually played in a circle may have to be played in a semi-circle.

When rehearsing each piece, offer the students some guidance on performance:

- ▶ It is important to start a piece from silence.
This separates the music from the background noise, which gets the performer into the right state of mind.
- ▶ To make a performance twice as good, you must ENJOY yourself!
The audience just want to enjoy themselves too, so be confident, sing out and give them a good show!
- ▶ You might even like to try out different ways of performing which can really bring a piece to life.
Suggestions: stand in different places or move about... add actions to the music like crouching for quiet sounds and standing up for loud sounds...

Performance

10 mins

Performing their work, even to a small audience of, say, a neighbouring class and a few teachers, can help the students to take pride in their work and find confidence in themselves and their ideas.

The concert might look something like this:

1. *Ruppetiggah!*
2. *Singing Shapes*
3. *Conductor*
4. *One Clap, Two Clap, Three Clap, Four...*
5. Each team's *The Beano Game* composition
6. Compositions made from the pages of the *Maestro* games
7. *The Golden Section*

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Supplementary Notes

Rehearsal and Performance

Students often pause in the middle of a piece to remember what to do next.

This can be helped by making sure all the ideas on their pages are clearly laid out.

Another tip is to assign individuals the responsibility to lead specific sections.

Recording

If you are making a class CD, you can record the pieces in the order suggested above for the concert, or simply record your performance.

Consider recording one extra track at the very start of the CD in which the students can individually introduce themselves and sing their favourite sounds into the microphone. You could also add one last track at the end in which the students can say goodbye.

Feedback

The Contemporary Music Centre welcomes feedback from teachers and examples of work created by students using this material. The best graphic scores and recordings will be added to the CMC web site. Please contact newmusicalive@cmc.ie or telephone 01-673 1922 if you would like to submit samples of classroom work.