

## Applied Piano Syllabus

Instructor: Yiteng Zhang  
Phone: 464 32 419  
Email: ngtch42@gmail.com  
Address: Kalfarveien 34A, 5018 Bergen

### Overview:

Applied Piano is the study of keyboard as it relates to the genres of piano works from Baroque to the 20<sup>th</sup>-century. The series provides instruction both technically and musically to enable students to perform and understand music in an artistic manner. The series is designed to be given in the form of either one 30-minute or one 60-minute private lesson weekly on a one-to-one basis. Additionally, private lessons are designed to build technical proficiency, repertoire, practical keyboard skills, and awareness of pianistic problems. The lessons are intended to help students see relationships between the assigned piano repertoire, music history, and music theory.

### Scope:

Students are generally categorized into three levels: the *Elementary* level, the *Intermediate* level, and the *Advanced* level.

### Competencies:

#### The Elementary Level

- At the beginning of this stage, students mainly concentrate on practising technical skills. A selection of pentascales, full octave scales, contrary motion scales, and triads with inversions will be introduced. Traditional favourites from the early pedagogical repertoire are presented as core material.
- Approaching the end of this stage, students will experience a broad range of genres and textures. Classical sonatinas are introduced to present new accompaniment styles and pianistic figurations. Selections from the Romantic and contemporary periods offer new musical and technical challenges. Scales and triads are played in a wider range of keys, and arpeggios are introduced.

### **The Intermediate Level**

- At the beginning of this stage, students will gradually encounter longer and more varied forms, fuller harmonic textures, and an increasingly sophisticated interplay of melody and accompaniment. Technical requirements expand to include dominant 7<sup>th</sup> chords.
- Approaching the end of this stage, students should be able to perform repertoire from four historical style periods, each with its own characteristic features. From this stage onward, students will study masterworks of the pianist's core repertoire. Technical requirements will include four-octave scales and arpeggios.

### **The Advanced Level**

- At the beginning of this stage, students will consistently work on Baroque contrapuntal works, larger-scale Classical sonata movements, and etudes and character pieces from the Romantic and contemporary periods. Starting from this point, all assigned works serve as effective vehicles for pianistic development. The increasing demands of the repertoire will be reflected by technical requirements in a wide range of keys.
- Approaching the end of this stage, a stimulating combination of challenges will be proposed through more demanding and varied repertoire selections and enhanced technical requirements in order to prepare students for the challenges of the significant level concert presentation. Students will intensively study three-part and four-part contrapuntal textures, contrasting movements of Classical sonatas, and more complex Romantic and contemporary repertoire. Starting from this point, all assigned works strive to provide the inspiration for students' developing artistry.

### **Expectations:**

The instructor will select and assign repertoire and various technical exercises that are appropriate to the level of each student. Students should expect to work toward completion of both short term and long term assignments. Selected works will be asked to be performed from memory. Students might be invited to perform their repertoire during studio classes. Students who take *30-minute lessons* or *60-minute lessons* are expected to practice *30 minutes* or *60 minutes* on a daily basis, respectively.

## Repertoire:

The following is the list of some selected compositions/collections for the *Elementary* and the *Intermediate* levels,

<b>Bach, Johann Sebastian</b>	<i>First Lessons in Bach</i> <i>6 French Suites, BWV 812-817</i> <i>42 Little Keyboard Preludes</i> <i>15 Inventions, BWV 772-786</i> <i>15 Sinfonias, BWV 787-801</i>
<b>Beyer, Ferdinand</b>	<i>Vorschule im Klavierspiel, Op.101</i>
<b>Clementi, Muzio</b>	<i>6 Sonatinas, Op.36</i>
<b>Czerny, Carl</b>	<i>The Art of Finger Dexterity, Op.740</i> <i>30 Etudes de Mécanisme, Op.849</i> <i>Practical Exercises for Beginners, Op.599</i> <i>The School of Velocity, Op.299</i>
<b>Diabelli, Anton</b>	<i>Le bouquetier, Op.151</i>
<b>Hanon, Charles-Louis</b>	<i>The Virtuoso Pianist</i>
<b>Kuhlau, Friedrich</b>	<i>3 Sonatinas, Op.20</i> <i>6 Sonatinas, Op.55</i> <i>4 Sonatinas, Op.88</i>
<b>Lemoine, Henry</b>	<i>Études enfantines, Op.37</i>
<b>Schmitt, Aloys</b>	<i>Etudes, Op.16</i>

The repertoire for the *Advanced* level is vast. The choice of repertoire is aimed at presenting a generalist programme that offers a wide-ranging yet coherent mixture of periods, style, mood, and tempo. One should be able to demonstrate musical technique and perception at a level worthy of public performance and appreciation. A balanced programme that includes a contrast of repertoire from several distinct musical eras should have a similar form as follows,

- Baroque Repertoire  
Works by, but not limited to, J.S. Bach, Handel, or Scarlatti.
- Classical Sonatas  
Works by Beethoven, Haydn, Mozart, or Schubert.
- Romantic Repertoire  
Works by, but not limited to, Brahms, Chopin, Grieg, or Schumann.
- Post-Romantic, Impressionist, and the 20<sup>th</sup>-century Repertoire  
Works by, but not limited to, Debussy, Rachmaninoff, Ravel, or Prokofiev.