

MUSIC 1

Fergus Collins

Performance

Fusion, Jason Woolley

Natchez Trace, Glen Partridge

Stevie's Blues, Tommy Emmanuel

Fiesta, Tommy Emmanuel

REFLECTION STATEMENT

Over the past 12 months in the Music 1 course, I have dedicated the majority of my time to learning, perfecting and performing four guitar pieces. I chose these pieces alongside my tutor, Mr Cichocki, and my teacher, Mr Watters, with the ultimate aim being to provide my HSC markers with four varied, stylistic and sophisticated pieces. Each piece is grounded in a different style – country and Spanish to blues and jazz fusion – and it was this variety between each of the pieces that not only kept me engaged throughout the year but also enhanced my overall technical ability, to the benefit of each individual piece.

Whilst many of the techniques within these pieces prompted much practise (particular difficulty was found in sections where fingerstyle was needed, or where sound effects needed to be perfected), the most pressing issue prior to the HSC was my stage presence, as often noted by the internal markers. Thus, whilst perfecting the intricacies of my pieces proved difficult, much of my practise sessions in the mornings, afternoons and during classes were very much focussed on bringing a more dynamic and enjoyable performance to the markers.

Whilst I was heavily influenced by players such as Tommy Emmanuel and Stevie Ray Vaughan when approaching some of the pieces this year, I would credit much of the final product to the consistent presence of Mr Cichocki and my regular jams with classmate Frank Thomsen, both of whom helped me to rediscover a passion for music during my final year.





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