

PRINCIPAL BASS (BSO)

Audition Repertoire

November 2024

Preliminaries/Semi-finals/Finals

I. Solos (need not be memorized)

Bach	Cello Suite No. 3 [Allemande; Courante] (Use a version which transposes the original to G major, such as the Peters edition No. 238b, edited for bass by H. Samuel Sterling.)
Mozart	“Per Questa Bella Mano” [Aria for bass K. 612] (Play in D Major with orchestra tuning as in the Breikopf and Härtel Edition. Do not use the International Music Company Edition with transposed strings.)
Schubert	<i>Arpeggione</i> Sonata [Mvt. I] (Performed in G Minor using orchestral tuning.)

II. Orchestral Solos

Ginastera	<i>Variaciones Concertantes</i> [Variation XI]
Haydn	Symphony No. 31, “Horn Signal” [Mvt. IV: Var. 7, no repeats]
Mahler	Symphony No. 1 [Mvt. III: solo, with mute]
Prokofiev	<i>Lieutenant Kije</i>

III. Orchestral Passages

Bach	Orchestral Suite No. 2 [Double; Badinerie]
Bartok	<i>Concerto for Orchestra</i> [Mvt. I]
Beethoven	Symphony No. 5 [Mvt. II & Mvt. III]
Beethoven	Symphony No. 9 [Mvt. IV: recitative to mm. 594]
Brahms	Symphony No. 2 [Mvt. I & Mvt. IV]
Carter	<i>Boston Concerto</i> [E to 4 th measure of F (top line only of divisi)]
Dutilleux	<i>Shadows of Time</i> [37 – 41]
Mahler	Symphony No. 2 [Mvt. I: first page]
Mendelssohn	Symphony No. 3 [Mvt. I (Allegro): B to P]
Mozart	Symphony No. 35 [Mvt. I & Mvt. IV]
Mozart	Symphony No. 39 [Mvt. I & Mvt. IV]
Schubert	Symphony No. 9 [Mvt. III (Scherzo)]
Shostakovich	Symphony No. 5 [Mvt. I: 22 to 24]
Shostakovich	Symphony No. 10 [177 to 181]
Strauss	<i>Also sprach Zarathustra</i> [4 measures before 3 to 4]
Strauss	<i>Ein Heldenleben</i>

IV. Chamber Music with Boston Symphony Chamber Players

Schubert	Quintet in A Major, “Trout” [Mvt. I]
----------	--------------------------------------

V. Sight Reading

The Boston Symphony Orchestra tunes to A=441. You may use your own music, but please be prepared to use BSO parts if requested. The Audition Committee reserves the right to dismiss immediately any candidate not meeting the highest standards at these auditions.