






Period	Winter	Year	2025	Candidate no.	CR03
Name	Nicholas Courtman				

Examination for Colleague (CRCO)

Practical Examination: Keyboard Skills Portfolio

	Keyboard Skills Portfolio				
	Transposition	Figured Bass	Hymn Playing	Repertoire Performance	Total
Maximum mark	15	15	15	15	60
Pass mark	10	10	10	10	40
Mark awarded	10	11	12	11	44

Examiner	Tom Bell	Richard Pinel	Francesca Massey
Signature			



For all regulations and details of this examination, see the current edition of *The Royal College of Organists: Diploma Examinations*.

This report is final. No enquiries about this examination will be considered unless they are made in accordance with current regulations.

None of the particulars contained in this report may appear in a printed announcement.

EXAMINERS' REPORT: KEYBOARD SKILLS PORTFOLIO

RCO

Transposition

The indicated tempo was maintained, although it was slightly fast and there were some moments of inaccuracy and hesitation, including one passage where things became especially precarious. Touch was consistent, if somewhat over-detached. Thought was given to musical shape.

Figured Bass

Mostly accurate and with some stylistic command: though the chords started rather high and were quite sparse, they became more texturally consistent later on. There were a number of parallel 5ths/8ves. The tempo was good.

Hymn Playing

This was mostly effective hymn playing, convincingly responding to the text and maintaining a reliable pulse. The gaps between verses were not consistent, however. The touch was a little too detached and not conducive to the encouragement of lyrical singing.

The play-over was too long, and the extension was very slightly over the required duration, though mostly grammatical.

Repertoire Performance

The pulse was largely maintained, although slightly under tempo. Touch was somewhat inconsistent, but there was musical sensitivity in evidence, for example in the space allowed between some phrases and in some pleasing rubato. The change from Great to Swell was a little abrupt, with the consequence that the first Swell note was not audible. Organ management was otherwise good. The final ritardando was not observed.



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