

Creating and Submitting Your Performance Video

Music BA (Hons) and Foundation Year Music



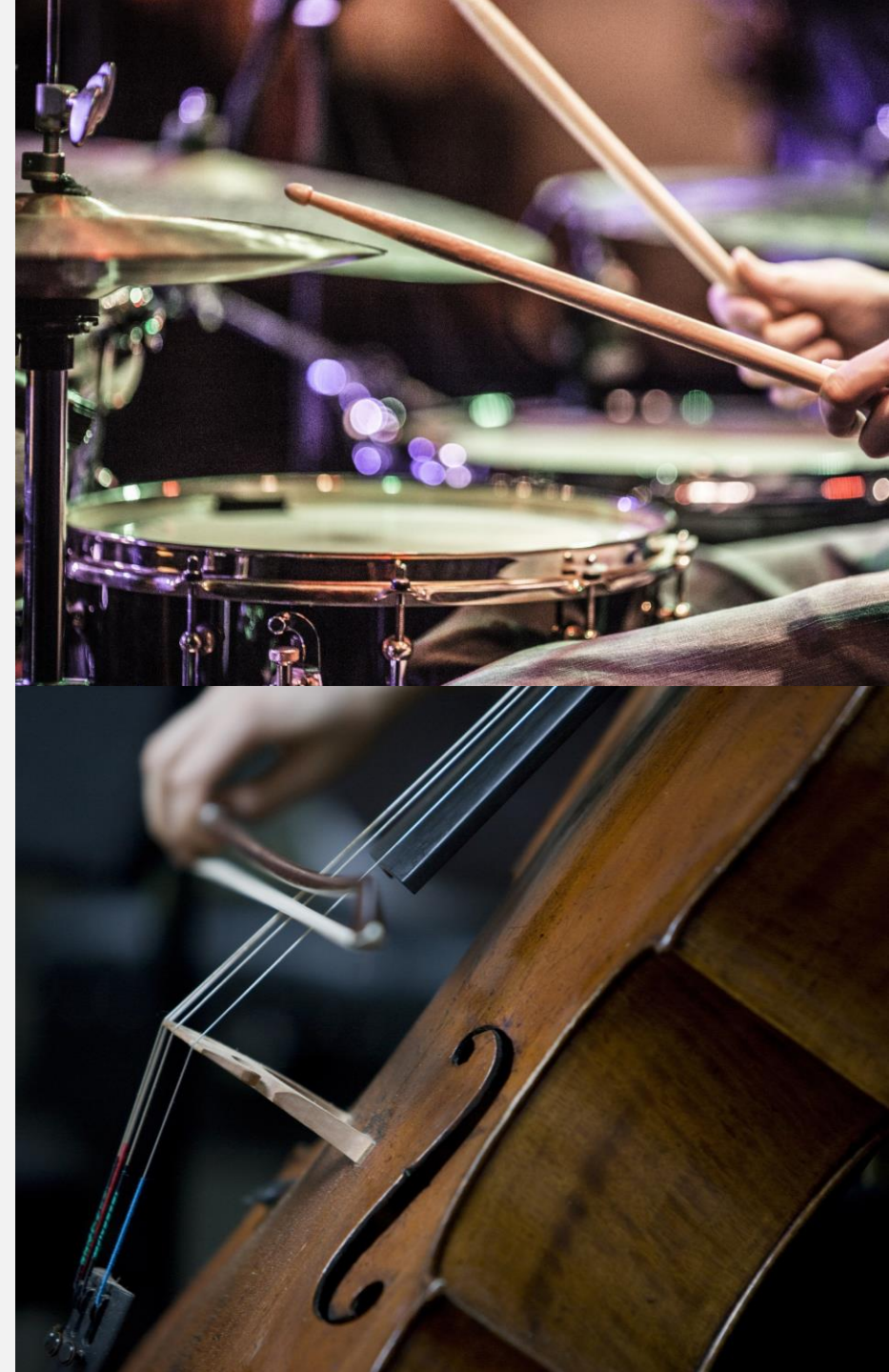
Northumbria
University

Why do I need to Submit a Performance Video?

As part of the application process all applicants are required to submit a video recording demonstrating their performance ability and have a discussion with academics about their application. We do not require evidence of formal Graded Music examinations to join this programme but would typically expect applicants to be performing at around Grade 6 (Foundation Year) or Grade 7 (BA), and have the ability to read music (staff notation).

We are not expecting a highly polished, professional recording – just an opportunity to see your potential as a performer.

Watching the performance videos is the most enjoyable part of the application process for us – we hope creating the video will be for you too!



Preparing for your Video

For your video you will need to choose 1 or 2 pieces of music for your main instrument or voice lasting around 3-5 minutes in total.

Your performance should show that you are working at the level for Grade 6 (Foundation Year) or Grade 7 (BA). You can consult the syllabus of exam boards such as ABRSM, Guildhall or Trinity for ideas on graded repertory.

Choose music to demonstrate your technical abilities and creative expression. Pieces that you have been practising recently and which you are confident playing will help you to show your best.

Do discuss your musical choices with your teacher if you are able.



Accompaniments, Backing Tracks and Bands

We do not expect you to arrange an accompanist for your performance. You can arrange one if you wish, but unaccompanied performances are fine and will not be disadvantaged.

You may use a backing track, but if you do, make sure that it is clear what you are playing (make sure you are not doubling a part on the backing track).

If you submit a performance where you're playing with a band or ensemble, make sure that the performance shows off your contribution and that we can clearly see and hear you in the performance.



Recording Your Video

Find a quiet space to record. This could be at school or at home (it doesn't need to be anywhere special).

You don't need to use any specialist equipment. The quality of video recording from a smartphone is usually fine.

Make sure that in your final video we can see and hear you playing.

Show us your talents, but don't worry too much about occasional slips – we'll be looking at the overall creativity and skills shown in your performance.



Submitting Your Video

You will need to submit a Word Doc (or equivalent) with the following:

- Your name and instrument
- Composers and titles of the piece(s) being performed
- Exam board syllabus on which the piece(s) appear (if any)
- URL link for your video


The easiest way to generate a URL for your video is to upload it to YouTube, making your video 'unlisted' (so only those to whom you give the link will be able to view it). You can also upload a video onto Dropbox or GoogleDrive and submit the URL link (make sure you select the option that 'anyone with the link can view').



Submitting Your Video (cont)

After submitting your video, you will be invited to an informal online meeting to discuss your performance and your wider musical ambitions with the Northumbria music team.





We look forward to
listening to your
performance!

For queries relating to uploading your video to the admission portal:
bc.applicantservices@northumbria.ac.uk

For queries relating to the musical content or requirements for the video:
david.j.smith@northumbria.ac.uk



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