Zoom Audition Guidelines
BA (Hons) Songwriting & Music Production

This guide will help you prepare for your Audition. It is important that you read each section to give yourself the best chance of obtaining a recommendation for the course.

What to expect

Auditions/interviews are one to one with a BIMM Institute Assessor and will last up to 1 hour. This is your opportunity to tell us about you and show your skill set for the course of interest.
There are two parts to your audition:

1.   Performance Audition – Songwriting
2.   Music Production Interview

During your audition you will have the opportunity to ask questions about the course, provide details on your musical background such as recording/performance experience, and discuss genres you have a keen interest in. Your assessor will also explore with you what you hope to gain from your studies and discuss your musical aspirations.

Part 1 – Performance Audition (Songwriting)

Prepared Piece
You must prepare an original song to perform live.
The course is both theoretical and practical therefore within the audition your assessor will be looking for both a satisfactory level of songwriting proficiency and performance ability or aptitude. In terms of musical accompaniment, applicants are welcome to use either a live instrument or backing track.

Please ensure you have ready:

•   Your own guitar/instrument of choice.
•   A backing track, please ensure it is your own original composition/production.
•   Lyric sheets, notebooks or workbooks
•   Anything else that supports your creative process

Demo Presentation
We also require you to submit in advance a multi-track demo recording of a fully realized song. There is a submission form found on page 3.
Your demo:
•   does not have to be mastered or meet a minimum track requirement.
•   should have at least two to three tracks on the demo creating the whole song.
•   should be different to the song you will perform live in the audition.
•   should last at least 3 minutes long.
•   can be played out from your device or provided on a USB/Memory stick.

Theory & Sight Reading

You may be asked to work through some sight reading and music theory-based exercises in order to gauge your musical knowledge and aptitude. **It is important to note** that successful completion of your audition **does not** rely on these elements. We look at all aspects presented by applicants when making a decision. The assessor may choose to take you through some of these exercises

THEORY - You will be asked to demonstrate your understanding/level of music theory knowledge. If appropriate, you will be asked some questions on key signatures, intervals and chords.

SIGHT READING - You will be asked to demonstrate your understanding/level of notation reading. If appropriate, you will work through a short sight-reading piece with the assessor.

Part 2 – Music Production interview

Your Portfolio
You must provide 3 examples of your Music Production work, please be sure that:

• your tracks are at least 3 minutes long.
• you have programmed and mixed the tracks yourself.
• any recorded elements have been managed by you (studio collaborations are permitted).

You do not necessarily have to have played any of the instruments recorded however, you will be expected to discuss your demos in depth with the assessor such as mixing and producing techniques. Your demos will be marked on:

• Quality of sequenced material
• Ability to explain your work
• Quality of recorded material (if applicable)
• Quality of mix and arrangement

The demos should be accessible on a streaming platform such as Soundcloud/Youtube/Spotify. Below you will find a submission form for all of your tracks. You are welcome to screen share DAW project files but only if this doesn't affect your device performance.

We highly recommend including screen shots with your submission showing applicable aspects of your work-flow such as mixing, programming, synthesis, audio recording etc. These can be sent alongside your submission.

Production Piece – what inspires you?

The assessor will also want to know about what music production styles and techniques you find interesting and inspiring so for this reason you will also be required to provide a link to one of your favourite productions. This could be a production with a music element that you really like or maybe a track where you feel that mixing or programming is super interesting or just really good! Feel free to submit a track where you also have questions on the production but be prepared to have your own take on what makes this particular track production / technique interesting to you.

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR SUBMISSION GUIDELINES AND FORM

Submitting Your Portfolio

To submit your demos, you will need to upload it to your preferred website. We recommend one of the following sites:

- Soundcloud
- Spotify
- YouTube

When your audio has been uploaded, please include a link to each video/demo in the below form. You need to complete this by the deadline given to you. Late submissions may not be considered. We cannot download your demos, please do not send us links to WeTransfer or email attachments. Please use the submission form below only.

Your Links

You MUST complete the form below. This is where you can provide information and links ready for your submission to be considered. Once this has been filled in please double check that the links work. You will then need to save and name the document in capital letters with your full name
followed by the word 'PRODUCTIONDEMOS' e.g JOHNSMITHPRODUCTIONDEMOS.

Please return this via email only to admissions@bimm.ac.uk.

FULL NAME

Music Production
SONG 1
Name of Piece:

Link to first piece:

SONG 2
Name of Piece:

Link to first piece:

SONG 3
Name of Piece:

Link to first piece:

Production Piece - what inspires you?
Name of Piece:

Link to fourth piece:

Songwriting
Name of Piece:

Link to first piece: