



## Zoom Audition Guidelines

### BA (Hons) Popular Music Performance (Vocals) & Music Production

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

Please also refer to our handy checklist to ensure nothing is missed and you are best prepared.

### BIMM Institute - Core Values

We here at BIMM Institute believe in empowering our students, and encouraging creativity regardless of Gender, Race, Religion, Age or Disability.

We are a community of creatives with a passion for Music, so what does it take to be part of BIMM Institute?

As a BIMM Institute student you will be creative, collaborative, innovative, professional and continue to push the boundaries of the Music Industry.

### What to expect

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

1. Performance Audition – Vocals
2. Theory & Sight Reading – assessor discretion/optional (please see notes in this section)
3. Music Production Portfolio Submission

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.

*Please note that this will be split across two auditions/interviews; one for Vocals and one for Music Production. The BIMM Admissions team can discuss this with you.*

### 1. Performance Audition - Vocals

You must prepare **two songs** to perform. As a guide we have provided a list below which you can choose from, however you are welcome to perform any song you like. A verse and a chorus will suffice but please make sure:

- They are **CONTRASTING** styles e.g. no two Billie Eilish songs
- They demonstrate your technical ability
- You feel comfortable performing them

Genre	Artist	Track	Genre	Artist	Track
Pop	Dua Lipa	<i>Don't Start Now</i>	Singer/songwriter	Joni Mitchell	<i>Big Yellow Taxi</i>
Funk/pop	Lizzo	<i>Juice</i>	Pop	Demi Lovato	<i>Stone Cold</i>
Rock	Joan Jett	<i>Do You Wanna Touch Me</i>	Jazz	Ella Fitzgerald	<i>Misty</i>
Rock	Queen	<i>Killer Queen</i>	R&B/Soul	H.E.R.	<i>Hard Place</i>
Reggae	Bob Marley	<i>No Woman No Cry</i>	60's pop	The Beatles	<i>Yesterday</i>
Soul	Donny Hathaway	<i>A Song For You</i>	Pop	Harry Styles	<i>Watermelon Sugar</i>
Funk	Stevie Wonder	<i>Higher Ground</i>	Jazz	(Any jazz version)	<i>All Of Me</i>
R&B	Lianne La Havas	<i>Bittersweet</i>	Indie Rock	Arctic Monkeys	<i>Do I Wanna Know</i>
Jazz	Gregory Porter	<i>Hey Laura</i>	Pop	Lady Gaga & Ariana Grande	<i>Rain On Me</i>
Pop	Anne Marie	<i>To Be Young</i>	Soul/blues	Imelda May	<i>Black Tears</i>

## Vocal Skills - Techniques & Theory Exercises

Your assessor may ask you to demonstrate the following exercises below. We recommend you become familiar with:

- Major & minor scales
- Intervals within one octave
- Ability to harmonize

If the theory of the above list is new to you, your ability to accurately hear and pitch the notes they contain will be assessed. If these exercises are demonstrated successfully, your assessor may request some additional examples, such as:

- Pentatonic scales
- Head/chest/mixed voice
- Modal scales

These are not integral to the overall recommendation; however, they can strengthen your audition.

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## 2. Theory & Sight Reading

You will be asked to work through some sight reading and music theory-based exercises in order to gauge your musical knowledge and aptitude.

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

**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.

**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 deciding on making the appropriate course recommendation.

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## 3. Music Production Portfolio Submission

You must submit two example of your Music Production work please be sure that:

- Your track is at least 3 minutes long
- You have programmed and mixed the track 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

In support of your production work, please submit screen-shots showing applicable aspects of your work-flow via the Supporting Material form on page 2 of these guidelines - for ease of upload a sharing a weblink we recommend using the image file sharing website [Imgur](#). This could include chain signals, arrangement views, mixing, programming, synthesis, audio recording etc. For interviews via Zoom, this can also be shared via the [sharscreen](#) function.

**\*\*\*more information on next page\*\*\***

## Your Inspirational Production Piece

The assessor will want to discuss with you what production styles and techniques you find interesting and inspiring so, for this reason please include a link of one of your favourite productions on the submission form. This could be a production with a music element that you really like, a track where you feel that mixing or programming is interesting or simply just really good!

This piece can be a song, or music from a game or film – there are no limitations but please be aware this piece should be the work of an established artist or industry professional and not your own. You may also provide a track where you have questions on the production but please be prepared to discuss your own view on why you find the track's production or technique interesting.

## Submitting your Supporting Material - Production Portfolio

To submit your supporting audio, video or image material, please upload to one of the following sites:

- Soundcloud
- Spotify
- YouTube
- Vimeo
- Imgur

When your material has been uploaded, please include a link to each audio/video/image 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 - Production Portfolio

You MUST complete the form below. This is where you can provide information and links ready for your zoom audition or interview. 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 'PORTFOLIO' E.g. JAMESSMITHPORTFOLIO

Please return this via email only to [admissions@bimm.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@bimm.ac.uk).

FULL NAME

Name of production piece # 1:

Link to production piece # 1:

Name of production piece #2:

Link to production piece # 2:

File name of work-flow images:

Link to images:

Name of production that inspires you:

Link to production that inspires you: