



an Audition Lab

What are they and how can we
prepare for them?





Today's Mentor

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20 years experience in the industry

pianist | vocalist | composer | arranger | educator





AUDITION

a trial performance to appraise a performer's merits

SIDES

What are sides? part of a script provided to actors for use in an audition.

Why do we use them? gives an audition panel an insight into what it's like to work with you as a cast member for this particular show

16-32 BAR PERFORMANCE

A bar or measure is used in writing music. It is a way of organizing the written music in small sections. Each bar is a small amount of time.

Choose the best excerpt for you (after rehearsing, maybe you like verse 2 and chorus 2 best for your 32 bars? You want to try to demonstrate your full performance potential within these 32 bars.



CLASSES VS COACHINGS

Classes aim to further the artist's skills and talents with regularity, repetition, discovery and confidence-building.

Coachings are more project-based. You might bring a specific song or character to your coaching with the intent of being led through a personal master class to help realize your fullest potential on your chosen performance piece. Often get a coaching before a big audition to make sure you're feeling confident going in.

CV SHEET (A RESUME)

A **CV** (short for the Latin phrase curriculum vitae, which means "course of life") is a detailed document highlighting your professional and academic history.

How much do you list? try not to overlap too much. Show the most recent and most professional experience you have, and if you don't have any yet, show the work you've done that demonstrates your path

Keep a **master CV** on your laptop - then copy and paste selections by audition to tailor your CV to each submission



BEFORE YOUR AUDITION

choosing material & edit | pick songs that can demonstrate the best of your ability, and edit songs to showcase your best

THE FOUNDATIONS LIST

- phrasing fluidity | make sure your lyrics are delivered with meaning in mind
- pitch consistency | always listen back and make sure you can hear your music and match up with it
- lyric dominance | master your lyrics in order to best connect artistically

[understand](#) what & why you're singing by finding a character that speaks to the part you want

[Contrasting Songs](#) means two songs that differ strikingly

[Repetition Repetition Repetition](#)

muscle memory

stress relief

therapy



active practice | scheduled, no other distractions, goal-oriented, checks the Foundations List

passive practice | singing with the radio, singing in the shower, etc.

RECORDING YOUR SELF-TAPE

BACKDROP | no whites - greys and blues are great for complementing colours

CLOTHING | avoid same colours and loud patterns - they can wash out your performance

STYLING | hair, makeup, and don't look distracting - dress in the direction of the character - not all the way (i.e. farmer), but don't go the opposite way!

LIGHTING | try to use extra lighting to accent your face/body

AUDIO | make sure your performance is heard clearly - avoid hums like the washer/dryer, A/C, etc and make sure any music you play is being played from a speaker behind you. Keep the music at a level that still allows your performance to



be featured

note: often times, bad audio or lighting can result in your self-tape not being fully watched

CAMERA | shoot in horizontal (landscape) mode unless requested otherwise whenever possible, use a mounting bracket instead of having someone hold. If you don't have a mounting bracket, rest your phone against something close to your proper eye-line height. You want a steady shot so you do not take away from your performance

SLATING | clearly state your name to start your self-record

FRAMING | use a "mid-shot", which is from the waist up make sure you are generally centred in the frame

PERFORMANCE | off book, take chances and be patient to get the great take

LAST WORD | take your self-tape seriously - there are those of us that do this for a living, so we know what it means to take our craft seriously, and we want to see in you that you understand how to do the same. We are looking for someone like you, because your skills, your talent will help us realize the vision we have for the project you're submitting for ... but



we need to see in this self-tape a collection of choices, preparation, organization, ambition, hard work and perseverance that all show that you're willing to use our project to help everyone win, everyone grow, and everyone enjoy creating something special.

AFTER YOUR SUBMISSION

[watch your submission](#) a few days later - revisit your foundations list again - objectively, did you accomplish?

[if you're comfortable](#), share your video with a trusted family member or friend - start a discussion about the things you achieved as well as things you can find even more success in.

[Your listener](#) should be one of your champions!

[Be proud of your submission](#), and no matter what, aim to improve every time you submit or attend an audition!