Auditions - Frequently Asked Questions

Orchestral Excerpts

What pitch does the orchestra tune to?

The ASO tunes to A=441Hz.

I have a query about the orchestral excerpts, who do I contact?

Please contact our Library team at library@aso.com.au and they will be able to assist you with your query.

One of the notes listed for a work in the orchestral excerpts is different to other editions of this work I have seen. Which note should I play?

You are welcome to contact our library team for clarification, however if in doubt, our advice is to play what is listed on the page in the orchestral excerpts. Where there is a variation the audition panel will be made aware of this and will be instructed to accept either note. The panel will not mark down candidates for playing the notes as is printed on the page in the excerpts.

Live Auditions

I am flying in to attend the audition. Can you arrange an audition time slot to accommodate my flight times?

Where we are notified of this, we will endeavour to accommodate where we can. Please note however that in terms of timings on the day, these are subject to change depending on the audition rounds – i.e. whilst we will provide in advance your timeslot for the first round, if there are subsequent rounds on the day, the timing of when the auditions will finish is flexible. We will endeavour to be finished prior to 5pm, and if on the day there are any issues, operations staff will be present to assist and you can advise them.

Will I have a session with the accompanist prior to the audition day?

Our accompanist has access to the Grainger Studio the day before the audition to work with applicants. You will be given the accompanists contact details and will be required to liaise with them directly about a mutually suitable time that day. This session will be at your own cost.

Will there be a practice room available the day before the audition?

Practice room availability is limited. To enquire about booking a practice room the day prior to the audition, please contact us at employment@aso.com.au and provide your name, preferred timeslot and contact details (mobile number & email).

What time can I come in on the day? Do I need to be there from the audition start time?

Our building will be open from 8:30am so please feel free to arrive any time after that and be ready to play at least 20 minutes before your scheduled audition timeslot. Please note that as practise rooms are limited, you will be allocated one in applicant audition time order.

I am running late/am unable to attend on the day, who do I contact?

If you are running late, or find that you are unable to attend, please phone and ask for operations staff immediately on 8233 6233.

Recording Submissions

I am not using a sound engineer, can I have a witness sign my recording declaration instead?

Yes, you can get a witness to sign the video declaration form — they just need to be able to verify that the recording is a true and recent record of your playing and that no editing or re-recording of the musical performance has taken place.

What is the order for recording, and can I take breaks in between the pieces, or does the tape need to run continuously?

Recording needs to be done in one session (i.e. All recorded in the same session, although the tape can be stopped where breaks are indicated) and in the following order:

- i. **Orchestral excerpts** These are to be done in numerical order and recorded in groups of five (5) excerpts in one continuous take, with no editing or re-recording. A short break is permitted between each group of excerpts. The last group of excerpts can be less than five. Each excerpt needs to be given a separate track listing number as the panel may need to jump from one to another as necessary.
 - To give an example of how these should be recorded Excerpts 1-5 (short break permissible) Excerpts 6-10 (short break permissible), Excerpts 11 & 12.
- ii. Set pieces (as per the advertisement). Each required solo repertoire piece (concerto, recital pieces etc.) must be recorded as an entire piece, as if it was being played as a performance (no editing or re-recording & no stopping between movements). Rest breaks in the recording schedule can take place between these pieces. An applicant may replay a section of the required material in the same take, if dissatisfied, however the original attempt must remain recorded (i.e., no editing).
- iii. Any requested works of the applicant's choice

Some of the excerpts have multiple parts (a) and (b). If one work has been split into an "a" and a "b" excerpt does that count as 1 or 2 excerpts for the group?

Please treat this as 2 excerpts and please label in your track listing the start time of each excerpt.

Do I have to use an accompanist?

The recording should have a piano accompaniment if required by the repertoire. Whilst not essential, we <u>strongly recommend</u> a piano accompaniment where required by the repertoire, as unaccompanied recording does not necessarily do the playing justice.



Do all instruments need to be visible for the entire recording? Or just the instruments that are being played?

Any instrument you are playing needs to be within the shot when being played. Try to have all instruments within the shot as much as is possible.

Post Audition

Can I seek feedback on my audition?

Whilst some details of the audition and the rounds must remain confidential, we are happy to provide individual feedback on your performance. Please contact us via employment@aso.com.au to request a copy of the feedback. Our Panel Chairperson will collate the panel's feedback on each candidate post audition and once this has been collated, will contact individual candidates who have requested feedback to provide this.

Further Queries

Who do I contact if I still have questions about the Audition Process?

Should you have any further queries on the audition process, please contact us at employment@aso.com.au