

Hi Everyone,

I am very excited to be working with all of you once again!

Here are a few notes that will help us to make the best possible video. This might seem like a lot, but please take a few minutes to read all of it. These are the things that will make all the difference in final quality for a project like this.

## **RECORDING VIDEO**

1. All video should be shot on a smart phone. The resolution in your phone is generally much better than your PC. Use your laptop or desktop (or another phone) with earbuds for the click track (metronome).
2. Video should be shot in “landscape”. That means turning your phone on its side.
3. We want to shoot 4K video at 30 fps. For iPhone 6 and up users, go to **Settings > Camera > Record Video > 4K at 30 fps**. Perhaps the first person to figure the settings in each of the other phone models can share with others how to change settings.

If your phone doesn't have 4K, use 1080p HD at 30 fps.

4. Natural light is best, but normal home lighting is fine. Please take a look at some of the virtual orchestra videos on YouTube to see how other groups have filmed themselves. Try to light yourself from overhead or from the front or both.

The shot should be well-lit, but more light isn't always better. In **Example 1**, the forehead of the singer in the top middle is too bright and on the edge of being “blown out”, whereas the singer in the bottom right is a bit too dark. Top left has sunshine on one

side and room light on the other which caused some discoloration. Notice that the singer in the bottom left is in a cluttered room, but he is well-lit while the room behind him is darker. This is a good example of the kind of lighting we want.

5. Please spend a few minutes thinking about the composition of your video image. In Example 2, the top two images are better than the bottom two. Remember this: I can crop the shot, especially with 4K video, but I can't put into the shot what's already cut off.

## **RECORDING AUDIO**

1. Players should experiment to see whether their phone's internal microphone or the the earbuds microphone sounds better.

2. Generally, the closer the microphone, the better the sound, as long as it's not so loud as to be distorted. Carpeted rooms with sofas or beds are best. We want the sound to be "dry" with little of the kind of reverberation you will find in a tiled bathroom. Reverb is much easier for me to put in than take out.

3. Please play back your audio in earbuds and listen with a critical ear. Make sure the sound is not distorted and PLEASE make sure we cannot hear the click.

## **UPLOADING YOUR FILE**

When you are finished with your videos and are satisfied with the quality of both audio and video, you can send them to me via the following link:

<https://spaces.hightail.com/uplink/CCO>

Before you do that, please rename your file with the composer's name, your last name, and part like this:

yourname\_part

For example: Rudoff\_cello

Again, thank you so much! I look forward very much to seeing what you send me!

Bill Brandenburgh

*Brandenburgh Productions*

bill@brandenburghproductions.com

(513) 488-5286