

Instructions for London Symphony Orchestra Pre-recorded/Online Auditions

Deadline for audition submission:

You must have recorded your first-round audition and uploaded it to your account on Musical Chairs by **SUNDAY 1 MARCH 2026**.

Your pre-recorded first round audition should include:

Exposition of the first movement of a Mozart concerto

Opening 2mins (approx.) of a contrasting concerto

Excerpt booklet

Filming conditions (we will remove video for anonymity):

- You must not speak at any point during the recording
- No piano accompaniment
- Please submit the audition with video – Musical Chairs will automatically remove the video content
- Single camera and single shot, preferably full length
- Visibly no editing (auditions found to have been edited may be excluded) and absolutely no effects are to be applied digitally
- Everything in one continuous take, as in a live audition
- Your audition video can be recorded using a smartphone camera or tablet – you do not need a professional grade camera
- When recording your audition video, use a space without background noise
- Position your equipment in front of a plain wall so that the main light source comes from behind the camera and that the image clearly shows your head, shoulders and torso
- Do not stand too far away from the camera or in front of a window
- Do not worry if the results feel a compromise; we understand you are not in a studio with professional recording equipment

Recommended sound settings:

- Very reverberant acoustics to be avoided, whether natural or artificial
- Microphones should be clear rather than professional quality
- The Audition Panel understand the circumstances and will judge your qualities as a player rather than the recording

Submitting your first audition:

Please upload your pre-recorded audition on to your Musical Chairs account.

After submitting your first-round audition:

To begin with, the audition panel will hear your short auditions without video, in order to replicate the conditions of screened live auditions. Successful candidates will be invited for a live second round audition, before being offered a trial.

END