



OPUS2018 Frequently Asked Questions

The call for scores

What should I submit?

For the OPUS2018 score and recording submission, it would help us most to see and hear a favourite piece you've written, one you feel best represents your compositional voice and interests. Please submit one pre-existing work written for an instrumental group of 3-10 players, of any instrumentation.

The second example of your work should be a sketch for the instrumentation available as part of the brief (female folk singer, piano & string quartet) of up to one minute in length. Please also include a short written proposal or 'abstract' outlining your reaction to the brief and how you plan to expand and develop the work into a full-scale commission.

I self-publish or have individual pieces purchased for publication, am I eligible?

Applicants must not be represented by a publisher. Composers who self-publish or have had individual pieces purchased for publication *will* be considered. If in doubt please get in touch prior to submitting (info@brittensinfonia.com).

I've been previously commissioned by Britten Sinfonia or was one of the shortlisted composers for OPUS2013-2017, am I eligible?

Applicants must not have been previously commissioned by Britten Sinfonia. Applicants who have been previously shortlisted for OPUS scheme by Britten Sinfonia are **not** eligible to re-apply.

Do I have to live in the UK to enter OPUS2018?

Applicants must be resident in the UK from the point of application until at least March 2019, when the premiere of the piece will take place in a UK tour.

Is there upper or lower age limit?

There is no upper or lower age limit. Anyone can apply regardless of background or age, from every part of United Kingdom.

Applying

Why should I submit my score without my name printed on it? What should I do instead?

Scores should be submitted without the applicant's name printed on it. The accompanying application form should include the titles of the compositions. When we receive your application, we will assign it a number. Only the scores and recordings will be passed on to our judging panel; they will have no information about you personally, and you will therefore be judged on the quality of your music alone.

Scores should be submitted as PDFs, using music-writing software such as Sibelius, or other typesetting programmes.

What format should I submit the recording in?

Recordings of computer-generated audio realisations are acceptable, but real performances are always preferable, regardless of recording quality.

- Sound files must be submitted as .mp3, .mp4 or .mid files. Please do not submit larger files such as .wav. Files can be converted with free software such as Audacity, Windows Media Player and iTunes, or using online converters such as <http://audio.online-convert.com/convert-to-mp3>
- You will not be judged on the quality of the performance or recording.
- Your name should NOT appear on the recording (**this includes the tags found under 'Properties'**).

What happens next?

After submitting your existing work and sketch, five applicants will be chosen anonymously and invited to expand their sketch for the forces specified to be workshopped by Britten Sinfonia musicians in January 2019. Guidance and feedback will be provided from guest composer Sir James MacMillan, folk artist Hannah Rarity and the Britten Sinfonia players.

Is there a timeline and what are the deadlines if I'm one of shortlisted composers?

Deadline for OPUS2018 open call for scores	Friday 19 October 2018
Applicants informed of successful shortlisting	late October 2018
Expansion and re-working of 'sketch'	Nov 2018 – Jan 2019
Workshop: 5 shortlisted composers	13 January 2019
Winner selected	At workshop day above
Composition editing/re-drafting period	Jan – March 2019
Deadline for final draft	8 March 2019

Please don't forget to submit details of your availability