

JUBILATE SINGERS

"Virtual Choir Recording"

Technical instructions

To make a video recording while singing, you will need 3 pieces of equipment:

1. A device that can play the musical recording for you to listen to while you sing (i.e., computer, laptop, iPhone, iPad, android phone, tablet)
2. Earbuds or headphones connected to this device to play the musical recording; any simple kind will do (wired or wireless earbuds/headphones are fine)
3. A different device for video recording; We strongly suggest that you use a smart phone or tablet or digital camera set to the video recording setting.

What follows are the instructions that will guide you step by step in your video-recording.

I. SET-UP

A. Recording device set-up:

1. On your tablet or smart phone, select the "Camera" app and then select "Video".
2. On digital cameras, turn the mode wheel to the icon that looks like a film frame.
3. Set the Phone/Tablet/Camera up on a firm surface or tripod at face height. Don't look down into the lens. Don't hand hold the camera. If you don't have a surface at the right height, then try stacking books. Nestle the phone/tablet against something like a laptop or picture frame so it can lean against it.
4. Place your recording device in "landscape" shape, not "portrait". Place your device at eye level so that your face is in the middle of the frame. Have your background to be as plain as possible
5. Frame yourself so that you can see your head and shoulders. Not too close so you just see your head or too far so you can see your waist. Try not to move around too much.
6. Record with the maximum amount of light possible. Day light is the best possible, but do not place yourself between a window and the camera. To gain light you may turn on additional light fixtures. You could also have an open blank word document on your computer desktop.

B. Playback device set-up

7. Open the audio file for your section guiding recording of Tourdion from our website, inside the private singer's part, in a folder called "Materials for Virtual Choir Recording". You will also there the road map and the score:
http://jubilatesingers.ca/members/2020_Fall_Info/
8. Use your ear buds or headphones to listen to the recording track that you are singing along with. If you're using headphones, you'll need to uncover one ear so that you can clearly hear both the track and your voice at the same time.

II. THE RECORDING

9. Prepare your voice by doing a short warm-up. Take time before making your recording to practice your part, following the song's road map posted on our website and the popper pronunciation, so that you can feel confident by the time you record yourself.
10. Sing standing if you can, with your feet hip-distance apart and feeling well grounded.
11. Do not move very much so your distance from the mic remains constant.
12. Look at the camera with optimism and reassurance. Lift your cheeks and sing happily!

13. Record at the loudest volume you can without distortion.
14. In the guiding recording for your section, you will hear 3 clicks, and one clap (imitated by an electronic snare drum). Listen to the 3 counts, then clap. Then the bass starts singing. If you are a bass, sing. If you sing T, A or S, wait for your entry by saying the lyrics of your part silently inside your head (your music section leader models this for you by talking the lyrics aloud).
15. When singing, try to copy the example of the voice on the guiding recording exactly as it is in the audio file. It is important to be as precise as possible with the beginnings and endings of phrases. Watch specially the last ritardando.
16. Have fun recording, enjoy the singing and imagine your audience while you sing. Make contact with the viewer. It's always tempting to watch yourself while you're recording but remember instead to look at the eye of the camera and not at your face.
17. Be prepared to try this many times before you land on a recording that you're happy with. Be patient with yourself as you develop this new skill!

III. SHARING YOUR FILE

18. When you've got a video that you're satisfied with, it's time to share. To transfer the file that you recorded with your cell phone, there are a few ways to do it.
 - Transfer from your phone to your computer using a USB cable. Plug your phone directly into your computer, find your video recording that you've just made and move it to your computer. Once it's on your computer, you can upload it to the appropriate link below.
OR
 - Go to the recording on your phone and find the "share" option from the recording itself on your cell phone and share it to your own Google Drive and then transfer to the appropriate link below.
OR
 - If you an Apple user (and are using an iPhone AND an Apple computer) you can share the video file from your phone to your computer using Airdrop
19. Save the file and upload it to the Jubilate Singers Google Drive folder which corresponds to the section that you sang:

Soprano:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1drzYG1VsFi2JWHpVFsRxr_31laW0iqrC?usp=sharing

Alto:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1p8hFy70MI3Xun2P4nvBA_HbKX2Vhpg_L?usp=sharing

Tenor:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/12hdqdzGbug0lopN2GNvUdU-7dgqyGHeG?usp=sharing>

Bass:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1_kplONuStRtBnkkRnRZ-pzaIVImaKs3v?usp=sharing

We'd like to make the best of our recording experience, and we do not want any singer to worry about either the technical material needed or the recording process itself. We trust that we will have a new and positive experience, but if you have any technical or musical concern, do not hesitate to talk to your Music Section Leader.

Keep a positive spirit and remember that it is when we join our many voices that our harmonies can resonate stronger!

OPTIONAL: for those who may find watching an instructional video helpful, you may have a look at the link below. Just a word of caution: the process described in this tutorial video is not exactly as the process that we use (different song and location to download the files, different process to upload the recorded file, etc.) The video may help you visualize some concepts, but it could also mix up the instructions for you. So, you may watch it at your discretion [Thanks to Regent Park Music School for sharing with us their tutorial video.

Tutorial: <https://youtu.be/Viuk3SMzx4c>