

# CARNEGIE HALL

## Weill Music Institute

### General Tips for Video Self-Capture

#### Device/Technical Details

- Film yourself with whatever device you feel comfortable using. A smartphone or tablet will work great.
- If using a smartphone or tablet, go to your camera settings and set to record video at “1080p at 30 fps”. (If the nature of the video edit requires higher resolution, you can instead set to “4K at 30 fps”—just ask the editor which they prefer. 4K allows an editor more flexibility crop/zoom the picture, but it’s not always necessary if the video is more static.)
- Make sure that there is plenty of storage space available on your phone. To give you an idea, one hour of video is about 10GB.
- If you have a tripod for your phone/tablet, that would be ideal. Otherwise, you will need to create a way to keep the phone stable during your shoot. Do not hold the camera yourself or have someone else hold it in their hand.
- Usually the camera on the back of your phone has a better lens, so use that if you can frame up the shot ahead of time. Or use the “selfie” camera if you prefer to see your composition while you film.
- Be sure to shoot in landscape orientation, not portrait.



#### Composition

- **Setting:** Please pick a simple backdrop. Remove anything that could be visually distracting like photos or tchotchkes.
- **Lighting:** It is best to shoot during daylight hours. Find a room that has good natural lighting and open up your shades to let the light in. Be sure that the light source is facing you to avoid being backlit—the light source can be behind the camera or slightly off to the side.
- **Camera height:** Try to have the camera at your eye level. Don't have the camera looking up at you, the camera under the face can be unflattering. Face the camera directly.

#### Sound

- Eliminate as much background noise as possible. Turn off cell phones and home phones, remove dogs and young children from recording space. If you are using your cell phone for capture, put it on airplane mode to avoid interruptions.
- If you're playing along to an audio track, please be sure to use earbuds or headphones so that the camera won't pickup the playback.
- If you're recording audio with an additional device other than your camera, please be sure to \*clap\* after you've hit record on all devices. This will allow the editor to more accurately sync the audio and video later.

#### Sharing

When sharing your video, please ensure that you upload the full-resolution file. If you are unsure, just ask the editor to make sure that the file you provide is hi-res enough.