



South African College of Music

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AUDITIONS AT THE SA COLLEGE OF MUSIC
INFORMATION for APPLICANTS for 2025

UNDERGRADUATE OPERA / CLASSICAL VOICE

Auditions will be strictly by appointment. As soon as you have applied to UCT and have a student number, please contact music@uct.ac.za with

1. details of your voice type
2. whether you are applying for BMus or Diploma in Music Performance
3. whether you are interested in Opera or Western Classical

The minimum standard for entry is Grade VII (UNISA, Royal Schools, or Trinity). In special cases, we will accept applications from singers at an equivalent level who may not have matric music or music grades if they have a solo or choral background.

Auditions for all applicants will be scheduled in the order in which they are booked (you may not specify a preferred time).

You are strongly advised to audition as early as possible, particularly if you are applying for financial aid and/or university accommodation.

Audition requirements

1) For all undergraduate applicants in South Africa:

You will audition live. Please prepare **two contrasting songs or arias**, preferably in different languages, and to be performed from memory. An accompanist will be provided; remember to bring music for the accompanist in the key you are singing it in. If you have any questions about these requirements, please write in advance to music@uct.ac.za for answers.

In addition, candidates must prepare a performance, also from memory, of the short **piece of spoken text** in English, which is attached at the end of this document (female monologue or male monologue). Spend time in your preparation understanding the situation the monologue is delivered in, and making clear the thoughts and feelings of the character who is speaking.

2) For international undergraduate applicants:

Please record **two contrasting songs or arias**, preferably in different languages, and to be performed from memory. In addition, candidates should record their performance of a short **piece of spoken text** in English, attached at the end of this document (female monologue or male monologue). Spend time in your preparation understanding the situation the monologue is delivered in, and making clear the thoughts and feelings of the character who is speaking.

Please note:

- videos should be recorded in 2024.
- when access to a live accompanist is not possible, backing tracks are strongly encouraged, many of which are downloadable in mp3 format for free.
- please use a video format compatible with quicktime software e.g. avi, mov, dv stream, mpeg2, mpeg4, quicktime movie.
- each recording should be recorded in a single take and must not have any audio editing (including but not limited to reverb, equalisation or auto-tuning).
- the camera angle and proximity should allow us to see your facial expressions clearly.
- applicants who audition by recording may still be required to audition in person before a final decision can be made.

Recordings should either be sent by email to noluthi.kula@uct.ac.za or sent as a link via WeTransfer or Google Drive. If you choose this method, please don't forget to give Noluthi access.

If you email your audition recording you may have to break it into separate files -- most email servers will not handle the size of files that occur when all performances are in one file.

- **Recordings should be sent by 4 October 2024 at the latest**

**POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN MUSIC PERFORMANCE: OPERA
AND
MASTERS OF MUSIC: OPERA**

Auditions will be strictly by appointment. As soon as you have applied to UCT and have a student number, contact music@uct.ac.za with details of your voice type and the course for which you are applying (e.g. MMus Opera, Postgraduate Diploma in Music Performance).

Auditions for all applicants will be scheduled in the order in which they are booked (you may not specify a preferred time).

You are strongly advised to audition as early as possible, particularly if you are applying for financial aid and/or university accommodation.

Audition requirements

1) For all postgraduate applicants in South Africa:

You will audition live. Please prepare **four audition pieces**, including:

1. An aria in English (or recognised English translation)
2. An aria in Italian
3. An aria in either French or German
4. A fourth piece which can be opera, song, oratorio or music theatre

All items must be sung from memory. Remember to bring all the music for the accompanist in the keys you are singing it in. If you have any questions about these requirements, please write in advance to music@uct.ac.za for answers.

In addition, candidates should prepare a performance of a short **dramatic monologue** in English of their own choice. The monologue can be from a play or a film, and should be performed making clear all the thoughts and feelings of the character who is speaking.

2) For international postgraduate applicants:

Please record **four audition pieces**, including:

- 1 An aria in English (or recognised English translation)
- 2 An aria in Italian
- 3 An aria in either French or German
- 4 A fourth piece which can be opera, song, oratorio or music theatre

All items must be sung from memory.

In addition, candidates should record their performance of a short **dramatic monologue** in English of their own choice. The monologue can be from a play or a film, and should be performed making clear all the thoughts and feelings of the character who is speaking.

Please note:

- videos should be recorded in 2024.
- while access to a live accompanist is less possible, backing tracks are strongly encouraged, many of which are downloadable in mp3 format for free.
- please use a video format compatible with quicktime software e.g. avi, mov, dv stream, mpeg2, mpeg4, quicktime movie.
- each recording should be recorded in a single take and must not have any audio editing (including but not limited to reverb, equalisation or auto-tuning).
- the camera angle and proximity should allow us to see your facial expressions clearly.
- applicants who audition by recording may still be required to audition in person before a final decision can be made.

Recordings should either be sent by email to noluthi.kula@uct.ac.za or sent as a link via WeTransfer or Google Drive. If you choose this method, please don't forget to give her access.

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- **Recordings should be sent by 4 October 2024 at the latest**