



TTL Audio Productions

Audition and Competition Recordings **Information for CCM and Miami University students**

You work hard to develop your musicianship to a high level of excellence. When the time comes to show what you can do to an audition or competition committee, why would you submit a recording that displays your abilities in anything less than the best possible light?

Music is a highly competitive business. To have a shot, you must not just be a great musician. You must also care enough to present a product that stands out from the rest, which says "*I strive to look and sound the best, and here is the proof.*" Think of it as dressing for the job you want, not the job you have.

The important thing to remember about audition recordings is that while they won't get you the job, they do get you past the first round. For serious music programs and competitions, excellence is expected from submitted recordings not just in terms of musicianship, but also in terms of sound quality and presentation. Amateur recordings made from personal handheld recorders with cheap microphones will just not cut it. I have heard competition committee members say: "*How serious can this applicant be if they send in something that sounds like this*"?

Even if you don't hire me, you would be wise to take the following advice:

- **Hire a professional.** An audio pro should have the right equipment, expertise and temperament to get you a good product. Ask lots of questions. This is important for you, so you should get exactly what you need. Your only concern should be in making your best music.
- **Record in a good space.** There is no substitute for recording in good acoustics. You must avoid small rooms: absolutely no recording in practice rooms, living rooms, etc. Reserve a recital hall, a church, or an auditorium. You will hear the difference!

At TTL, I work very hard to ensure that your audition/competition CDs present you in world-class sound that will make you stand out from the crowd. My rate is \$50 per hour, with a two-hour minimum. Include one hour for post-production, editing and mastering of your recording. Here is what you get when hiring me:

- **Experience.** I've been engineering recordings professionally for over 15 years, recording all types of classical and acoustic music in all types of acoustical spaces. My recordings have been broadcast on locally and nationally produced Public Radio programs. I work with you to make sure your session runs as smoothly and comfortably for you as possible so that you are at your best.
- **The finest equipment.** I own and use the finest pro recording equipment available, including:
 - Schoeps and Sennheiser microphones (the same mics used by Telarc®)
 - DSD digital recording (the highest resolution recording technology available)
 - High-end microphone preamplifiers by DAV and Benchmark Media Systems
- **A demo CD of session takes (upon request).** This lets you audition takes to select for your final CD.
- **Editing and polishing.** Post-production, editing and mastering are essential to make your recording polished, professional, and quite simply, *listenable*. Anything less is a waste of your money.
- **On-CD printing.** I will include all required information for your CDs according to your specifications. Printing is done via photo-quality full color inkjet printing or by using LightScribe® laser-etching.

Two finished CDs are included postpaid. Additional CD copies are \$5 each. Please contact me for more information or to schedule your recording.

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