

Call for submissions for interNational Organ Day 2021

To organists in the UK and around the world

We, the RCO, feel that organists are one global family. The interNational Organ Day 2021 on 24 April is going to be an online celebration of this community, webcast live from London. We will feature live performances, host celebrity guests and, this is where you come in, show what it means to be an organist in your country (for all international contributors), region or town. We would like to know such things as:

- What do you love about playing?
- Is there a certain organ piece that has particular meaning for you?
- Is there a story connected to the instrument you play?
- How did you get attracted to the organ?
- What does a day in your life as an organist look like?

Imagine your local TV station was creating a story about you. We are looking for material that we can turn into a captivating narrative such as:

- one or two videos of you playing; choose repertoire that represents who you are
- your story
- complementary footage of your surroundings and the landscape around you, footage of your organ and of the building in which your organ is located

Our assumption is that you will be using your smartphone (or multiple smartphones) for shooting. If you do not feel comfortable making a film yourself, why not ask a friend to help? Or, if you don't feel like sending videos at all, there is still a variety of ways how you could contribute, e.g. by sending audio recordings, an audio narrative, texts or photos.

This document aims to give you all the information you need for submitting compelling videos. If you would rather watch video tutorials than read, we have selected a few short clips that might help you (you will find the links for these tutorials at the end of the document).

We also hope that this quick guide will not only give you a creative and enjoyable time creating content for interNational Organ Day, but that it will also allow you to use some of our tips for your own purposes in the future.

We wish to feature as much of your material as possible, either during the live webcast on interNational Organ Day 2021 (24 April) or as stand-alone videos on the RCO YouTube channel.

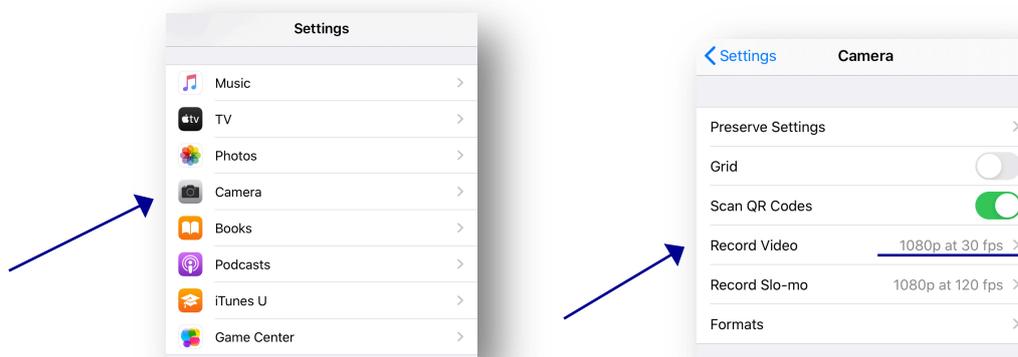
Many thanks in advance and all the best,

Sir Andrew Parmley, Christopher Morris, Michael Koenig
interNational Organ Day 2021 production team

Our top tips for film-making

General

- shoot in landscape mode (long side at the bottom)
- before you start talking, playing or moving your camera (and after you finish), let the recording run steadily for about three seconds
- use a tripod (or selfie stick) or put your smartphone/camera on a piece of furniture
- check that in your recordings the audio is clear and undistorted
- check that your footage is sufficiently lit
- if possible, shoot in HD quality (1080p); this can usually be selected in your smartphone camera settings



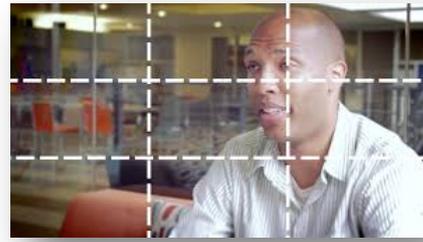
Organ music

- first and foremost, don't hesitate to send us some of your existing organ videos, provided no copyright obligations are tied to them
- if you are recording, the best camera angle is a wide shot of the console
- check that any vibrations of the organ don't make the image wobbly
- if you want to give us more options for editing (and if you have a second smartphone/camera available), film yourself from two different angles at the same time, e.g. a wide shot of the console and your feet or hands from slightly above
- check that there is no action noise in the recording
- if you have another recording device available (e.g. a Zoom recorder), capture the sound separately from an acoustically favourable location in the building; even a smartphone voice memo from the nave sometimes sounds better than the sound from the console

Your story

- work on your own, answering imaginary questions into the camera (kindly send us your questions as a document) or work with a colleague, friend or family member who is asking you questions
- have the camera at the same level as your eyes

- look as if you were talking to somebody standing next to the camera; don't talk straight into the camera (this is an interview, not a presentation)



- either face a window or have a window to one side; if there is no alternative than having a window in your back, close curtains and blinds
- use indoor lights, even during daylight

Complementary footage

This material will help us to make your story more relatable and interesting

- show us your surroundings from far away (e.g. a look over your town from an elevated position), from closer by (as if we were driving into town) and from your immediate vicinity
- submit each of these shots as separate clips
- hold each shot for about ten seconds
- feel free to include camera movement, but if so, also shoot some clips at a frame rate of 60 or 120 frames per second (this can usually be selected in the video settings of your smartphone)
- show us whatever you think could be of interest for someone who doesn't know your place
- do the same with the building in which you play
- do the same inside the building with your organ
- organ details always make for great complementary footage
- don't hesitate to get creative; there are some charming ideas in our video tutorials

Sharing your materials with us

- share your submissions with us by **15 March 2021**
- send your photos, texts and audio recordings directly to: internationalorganday@rco.org.uk
- use one of many available free data transferring services to send us your video by using the same email address; <https://wetransfer.com> is one of the most-used of these platforms
- submit all your tracks separately, i.e. your organ recording(s), [if applicable] the audio file for your organ recording(s) and any additional angles, your story, your complementary footage
- we will accept all customary video and audio formats
- please label your files as follows and include a document telling us what each file contains:

your last name, your first name – short description of what's in the file e.g. organ piece

For example:

Morris, Chris – Bach Toccata and Fugue in D minor

Morris, Chris – Bach Toccata and Fugue in D minor, audio

Morris, Chris – interview

Morris, Chris – views of my organ console

Here are our recommended tutorials for you

This is our selection from a wealth of tutorials that can be found on the Internet. We do not specifically endorse any of the filmmakers featured in our selection but we are grateful to them for sharing their expertise online.

BASIC TUTORIAL: How to shoot an interview (1'30)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0tTvnKjhMME>

INTERMEDIATE TUTORIAL: How to shoot an interview (4'45)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VGXON1Pi0CO>

ADVANCED TUTORIAL: How to shoot an interview (10'30)

[if you want to get really creative]

<https://www.diyphotography.net/10-angles-that-will-take-your-interviews-to-the-next-level/>

BASIC TUTORIAL: How to shoot complementary footage (watch the first 2'30 of this clip)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c5BP7d4S5yg>

[NB. do not feel obliged to use an third-party app for filming]

INTERMEDIATE TUTORIAL: How to shoot complementary footage (5')

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3Wst1gTfnXU>

ADVANCED TUTORIAL: How to shoot complementary footage (9')

[if you want to get really creative]

https://www.youtube.com/watch?list=PLkrwfRyn6fbEjSPI779XQojardMH_b1ho&v=1SLGQsL9MC8

Terms and conditions

By submitting material, contributors agree with the following conditions:

You confirm that all the material you have sent us is your own work, or that you have written permission to use it from the copyright owner.

*Note that you must not include performances, film, images or other content which aren't your own, unless you have **written permission** from the copyright owner, or you can confirm that the material is in the public domain. It is not sufficient to think that someone 'probably wouldn't mind', and just because something can be downloaded from the internet doesn't mean it isn't within copyright.*

We cannot pay compensation or fees.

We reserve the right to use all submitted content for the delivery of interNational Organ Day and related events, and for all related promotional activity.

We anticipate receiving a large number of submissions. We apologise in advance if we are unable to use your work.