



SOMERSET SONG PRIZE 2024 - Entry Form

Prize money includes:

- **£1000 for the Singer Prize**
- **£1000 for the Pianist Prize**
- **£250 for the Most Promising Young Singer (18-21 years old)**
- **£250 for the Most Promising Young Pianist (18-21 years old)**
- **£500 for the Audience Prize for their favourite duo**

Entry criteria:

The Somerset Song Prize 2024 is open to any singer and pianist as a duo, where:

- the singer is 18-26 years old on 12 May 2024 *and*
- the pianist is 18-26 years old on 12 May 2024 if the pianist wishes to be considered for the main Pianist Prize (we are happy for older pianists to enter as part of a duo but they would not be eligible to receive a prize) *and*
- the duo submit an original video recording of 8-10 minutes with no extracts from opera or oratorio and at least one song not in the singer's native language
- they complete this application form in full and submit it, and their video entry digitally via Youtube (see instructions below) by 28 February 2024.

Note: applicants may present some of their earlier round repertoire in the finals, should they be selected, though we encourage duos to explore repertoire and show off your range. Please do not change your programme after submission.

Full name of the singer

Full name of the pianist

Contact postal address

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Post Code

Email of the singer

Email of the pianist

Singer's age
(on 12 May 2024)

Pianist's age
(on 12 May 2024)



The Somerset Song Prize is proud to be associated with the Taunton Festival of the Arts (Registered Charity No. 1179098). The Festival is affiliated to the British & International Federation of Festivals of which Her Majesty the Queen was the patron.



Suggested setup for your recording

We advise recording audio and video on the same device; a modern smart phone or tablet should be fine.

- Place phone/tablet or camcorder at eye level, on a stand or flat surface
- Record in landscape not portrait
- Ensure both singer and pianist are in the frame
- Make sure you are in a quiet environment, with as little background noise as possible
- We'd advise singers not to wear all black, especially if you're in a dark room
- At the end, please leave a few seconds of silence

Submitting your recording privately via YouTube

1. Login to YouTube in a web browser, preferably on a laptop, iPad or PC (in our experience it's tricky relying solely on a smart phone to do this). You need to be logged in to YouTube upload a video
2. Click the Create a video or post button at the top of the screen (it looks like a camera) and then click "Upload Video"
3. Select the file to upload and then choose a title for your video that ensures we can identify you, including at least the surname of the singer and surname of the pianist
4. When prompted to do so, select "Private" rather than "Public" visibility
5. When you complete the process to upload and publish, it will now be saved as a private video. You will now need to add our email address to share the video privately with us. Note: sharing a link to your video without adding our email address will not work. The most reliable way we've found to arrange this is as follows:
 - a) You need to be in "YouTube Studio" mode. You may already be in "Studio" mode but if you are not, click on your photo in the upper right corner (or your initial, where the photo would be if you had one) & click on "YouTube Studio" option
 - b) Click on "Videos" on the far left side. This will bring up a list of your videos.
 - c) Find the video you want to share. You now need to select the "details" option, which for me is accessed via a pen symbol. Click on this to bring up the details for this specific video – and look for a button that says "Share privately". (If you don't see one, don't panic! In the upper right, just to the right of "Undo changes" and "Save" you may see three vertical dots: if so, click on this and then select "Share privately".) You will then see the email addresses of anyone you have already shared the video with and a place to add additional email addresses. Complete this by adding the following email address:
somersetsonprize1@gmail.com
7. Finally, share a link to your video (which hopefully has by now been uploaded to your YouTube account) by emailing a shareable link to somersetsonprize1@gmail.com. This can be as simple as copying the web address of your video and pasting it into an email to us. **Please contact us (using the same email address) if you run into any problems.**



PROPOSED REPERTOIRE

First round: proposed repertoire, noting:

- No extracts from opera or oratorio
- Minimum of 8 minutes and a maximum of 10 minutes.
- At least one song not in the singer's native language

SONG	COMPOSER	APPROX. DURATION
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Semi-final (if selected): proposed repertoire, noting:

- No extracts from opera or oratorio
- Minimum of 10 minutes and a maximum of 12 minutes.
- At least one song not in the singer's native language
- One British Art Song composed since 1900

SONG	COMPOSER	APPROX. DURATION
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Final (if selected): proposed repertoire

- No extracts from opera or oratorio
- Minimum of 12 minutes and a maximum of 15 minutes.
- At least one song not in the singer's native language
- One British Art Song composed since 1900

SONG	COMPOSER	APPROX. DURATION
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Dates of Semi-final and Final (both in Taunton, Somerset)

- Saturday 11 May 2024: semi-final
- Sunday 12 May 2024: final
- Free accommodation if required will be provided to all duos for the Saturday night

Masterclass on Sunday!

Duos who do not reach the Final are invited to participate in a free masterclass with international soprano and SSP patron Elizabeth Watts during the morning of Sunday 12 May.



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Submission of form and payment

- Please complete this application form in full
- The entrance fee for singers is £20
- The entrance free for pianists is £20
- Pianists who play for more than one singer need only pay once! Singers – please check with your pianist before sending payment (in case they have already paid)
- There is no entrance fee for pianists over 26 years old, noting they would not be eligible for the Pianist Prize
- Entry fees are non-refundable after closing date 28th February 2024, unless the competition is abandoned due to unforeseen circumstances, in which case those still in the competition will receive a full refund

Payment

We encourage payment to be made online, using the following bank details:

Lloyds Bank account name: Somerset Song Prize

Account number: 71474068 Sort Code: 30-98-45

Important - please add a reference to your payment: **First few letters of your surname**

Payment: Online Cheque

Cheques are acceptable, made payable to the "Somerset Song Prize".

Cover note (if needed):

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SSP contact address

Please return the completed application form by **28 February 2024** to:

Somerset Song Prize, Taunton Festival of the Arts
Cranford, Bishops Hull, Taunton, TA1 5EW

Or send the completed form via email to sspoffa@gmail.com



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