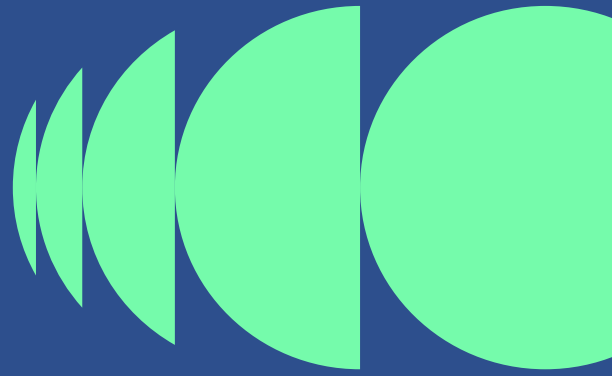




**Institute
of Music**



Music and Sound Portfolio and Interview Guidance

2026 & 2027 entry

↳ **BA (Hons) Music and Sound for Film & Game**

Thank you for applying to dBs Institute of Music!

Whether you're a performer, producer, sound designer, or multi-disciplinary artist, this application process is your chance to showcase your creativity, passion, and potential. We're not looking for perfection, we're looking for individuals who are curious, committed, and ready to grow.

What to expect:

We will ask you to submit a [portfolio](#) including **either one** of the following:

- ↳ Two original compositions at least 1 minute in length.
- ↳ An extended piece of audio scored to a moving image (.mp4 or .mov)

We will ask you to attend an [interview](#) with a member of our academic team who will:

- ↳ Discuss your application and portfolio.

If you have submitted an APEL (Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning) application, this will also be reviewed during your interview.

Final decisions will be communicated via **UCAS Hub** and confirmed by email.

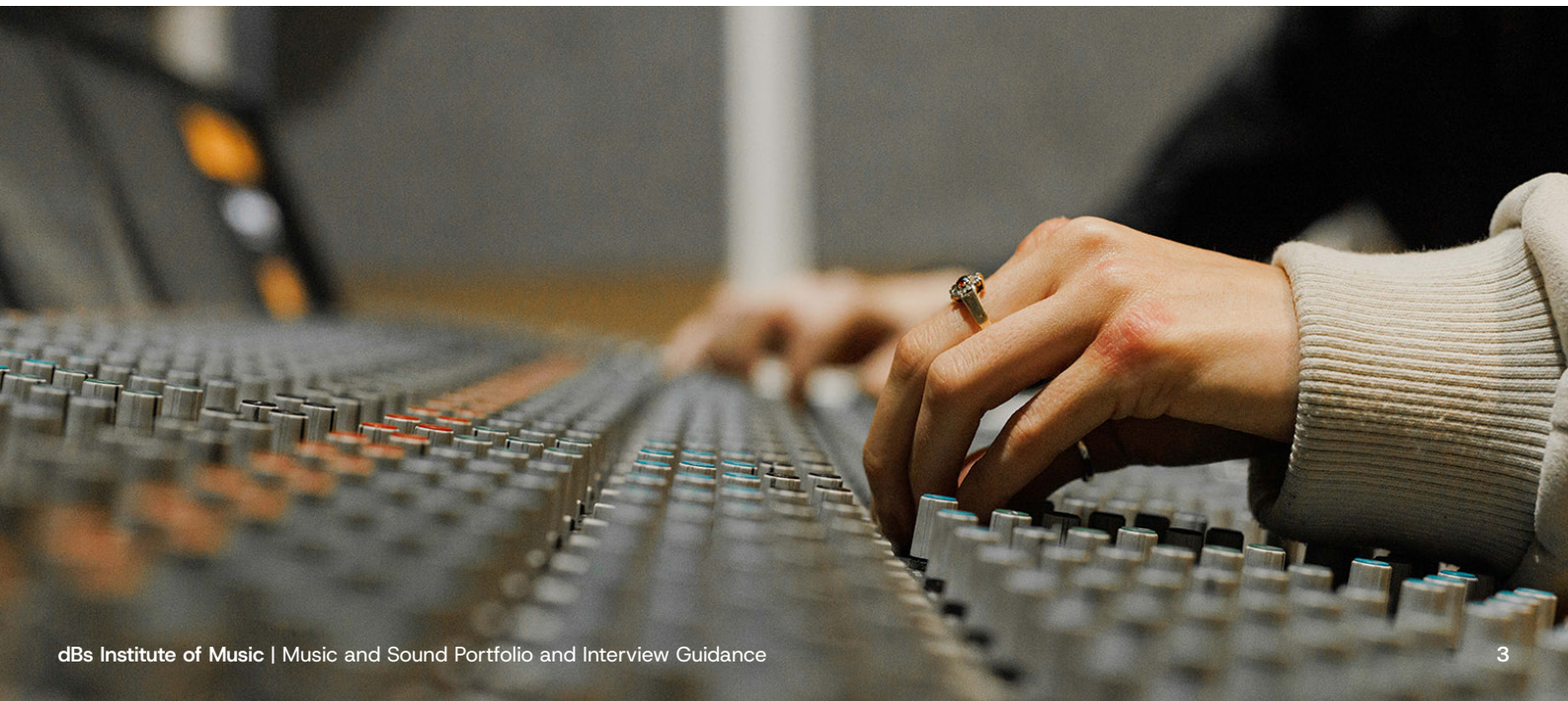
What we're looking for

We're looking for individuals who are excited by the creative and technical possibilities of working with sound in visual media. Your portfolio should give us a sense of your storytelling instincts, sonic imagination, and your ability to think both musically and technically in context.

We're not expecting fully polished or professional work, we're interested in your potential, your curiosity, and how you approach sound creatively and purposefully. This might include:

- ↳ **Your technical approach:** What decisions have you made in your production process and why?
- ↳ **Use of music theory:** How do elements like harmony, rhythm or motifs help you shape mood, emotion or character?
- ↳ **Your working practice:** Can you clearly discuss your creative process and reflect on your choices?
- ↳ **Your motivation:** What drives you to create? What inspires your work?

We want to see how you explore ideas, solve creative problems, and bring your own voice to the world of sound for screen. Whether you're just starting out or already experimenting with soundtracks, trailers, cutscenes, or interactive audio, your portfolio is your chance to show us what excites you, and where you want to go next.



Portfolio

Your portfolio is a vital part of your application to dBs Institute of Music. It offers the academic team a window into your musical identity, your technical ability as a producer or performer, and your creative potential. This is your opportunity to present a piece of work that reflects not only what you can do, but how you think musically.

We understand that applicants come from a wide range of backgrounds and experience levels. Whether you're just starting out or already producing regularly, what matters most is your willingness to explore, your originality, and your commitment to developing your craft.

Your portfolio should include either:

- ↳ Two original compositions at least 1 minute in length.
- ↳ An extended piece of audio scored to a moving image (.mp4 or .mov)

If submitting a collaborative project, please clearly indicate your role (e.g., producer, engineer, mixer).

Option A: Audio Track Specifications (.mp3 or .wav)

Number of Tracks: Two

Length: at least 1 minute in length

Format: .mp3 or .wav

Content: Productions can be created in a DAW of your choice. Demonstrating some of the following techniques:

- ↳ MIDI-based sequencing
- ↳ Audio sequencing & manipulation
- ↳ Melody and Harmony
- ↳ Mixing & Automation

Option B: Extended Audio Scored to Moving Image (.mp4 or .mov)

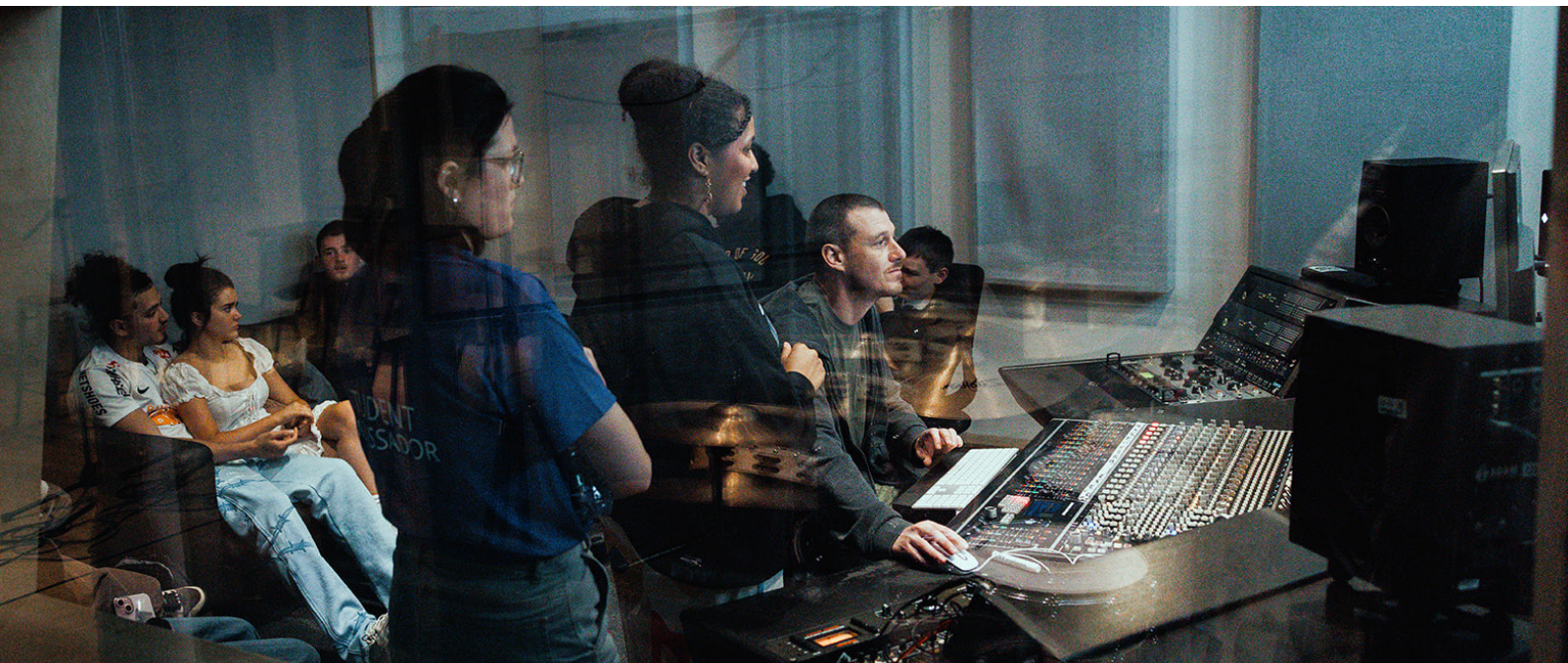
Number of Tracks: One

Length: at least 3 minutes in length

Format: .mp4 or .mov

Content: Productions can be created in a DAW of your choice. Demonstrating some of the following techniques:

- ↳ MIDI-based sequencing
- ↳ Audio sequencing & manipulation
- ↳ Melody and Harmony
- ↳ Mixing & Automation



Things to consider:

When putting your portfolio together, choose work that reflects your creativity, technical ability, and interest in sound for visual media. We're not expecting perfection, we want to see how you think, experiment, and bring ideas to life through music and sound.

Think about how your work supports storytelling, whether through atmosphere, pacing, or emotional impact. If you work across different genres or styles, that's great too, it helps us understand your range and artistic voice.



Interview:

As part of your application to dBs Institute of Music, you'll attend an interview with a member of our academic team. This is an important opportunity for us to learn more about you, your musical background, creative approach and aspirations, beyond what's shown in your portfolio and/or audition.

The interview is your chance to reflect on your work and share your artistic identity. You'll be invited to talk about your portfolio. We are interested in your creative process, influences and motivation.

It is also a great opportunity for you to speak directly with a member of our academic team. Feel free to ask us anything about the course, student life, career opportunities and what it's like to study with dBs Institute of Music.

You can book your interview online using **the link provided** in your application email. This allows you to choose a time and format (in person or online) that works best for you.

If you haven't received the booking link or need assistance, please contact our Admissions Team:

Email: admissions@dbsinstitute.ac.uk

Phone: 0161 552 6467

Important: Your portfolio must be submitted before your interview date. If it hasn't been received in advance, we may need to reschedule your interview.

How to submit your portfolio:

Please upload your files to Google Drive or another online file sharing platform (e.g., Dropbox, WeTransfer). Please ensure:

- ↳ All files are clearly labelled with your full name and the title of the work
- ↳ Sharing permissions are set to '**Anyone with the link can view/download**'
- ↳ Either upload to the [Falmouth Applicant Portal](#) or attach it when booking your interview.

Portfolio and interview checklist:

-  2 Audio Tracks at least 1 minute in length (.mp3 or .wav)
-  Or 1 Extended audio scored to moving image (.mp4 or .mov)
-  **Interview booked**
-  Files submitted to Falmouth applicant portal or uploaded to interview booking **prior to interview**

Need help?

If you have any questions about the portfolio or interview process, our dedicated Admissions Team is here to help. Call us on **0161 552 6467** or email at admissions@dbsinstitute.ac.uk