



Songcraft Festival 2024: Call For Composed-Song* Scores



Cult of Orpheus, an independent, composer-owned publisher of lyrical vocal music and opera, is thrilled to collaborate with **Washougal Songcraft Festival** in presenting a concert of original composed songs in August of 2024. This call for scores invites composers to submit works for solo voice, with or without instrumental accompaniment.

Submission Guidelines

Submission is free. Submission deadline: February 2nd, 2024.

Composers may submit up to 3 songs for consideration.

The vocal part must be for one of: **soprano, mezzo-soprano, contralto, tenor, baritone, bass.**

Songs may be solo (a capella), or with one instrument accompanying from the list below:

- piano
- (classical) guitar
- Percussion (frame drum, goblet drum, tambourine)
- Hellenic lyre (9 strings, E3-F4 natural diatonic notes)

Submissions must include four elements:

1. A cover letter; please include any relevant information about copyright and publishing for works submitted
2. A PDF of the vocal score
3. A PDF, RTF, or text document of the lyrics; if not in English, please also include English translation
4. An MP3 or an audio or video URL of either a performance of the song, or computer-generated audio

The four elements above should be provided via email to music@cultoforpheus.org with the subject "2024 Festival Submission"

Concert Performance

The concert performance will be given in Washougal, Washington on Sunday, August 18, 2024, in conjunction with the second annual Washougal Songcraft Festival. The festival will provide professional, rehearsed performances by regional singers and collaborative instrumentalists, and will pay a stipend to the composer (and, if applicable, lyricist), to be negotiated on acceptance of the work.

Artistic Vision

Cult of Orpheus aims to promote composers who are devoted to the craft of lyrical, poetic vocal music. The emphasis of Cult of Orpheus accords with the artistic criteria of Washougal Songcraft Festival (<https://washougal-songcraft.org/wsf/artists/>), with the difference that we do not expect songs to be performed by the composer.

Thank you for creating, and sharing, your work!

* **About the term "composed-song"**: we avoid the commonly used term "art-song" for the obvious reason: it implies that other forms of song are not art, and there are a wealth of counter-examples from folk, pop, and other domains. Of course all songs are in a sense 'composed', but a verbose description like "songs setting poetic texts notated in a written score for performance by musicians other than the composer" would be ridiculous. So we settle on "composed-song" to mean roughly that.