

Recording harp outdoors

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Audio

When it comes to mixing the music, if everyone has background sounds on their recordings, the music could be lost to a background mishmash of traffic, wind, running water, birds etc.

The closer the microphone/camera is to the harp the less background noise problems will be recorded.

You must decide whether the Audio (the Music) or Video (how you look) is more important and position the camera accordingly. Record one take with the camera a few meters away and another take with the camera closer and decide which to submit.

Remember that recordings with bad sound may not be used!!

Audio Problems

Solution

Wind or light breeze noise on microphone-	Identify where the microphone is on the phone/camera and place your mic in such a way that the wind is blowing directly from behind it and towards the sound source. Use a wind shield or building/wall (or a book close to the camera) to block the wind. Even the slightest, momentary, breeze during the take could spoil the recording.
Traffic -	You should sit or stand facing <u>towards</u> any source of sound—such as roads or crowds. That way the mics are not receiving any of those sounds directly.
Animals (cows etc.) and birds-	Move somewhere with less activity
Water - river, stream or beach-	Move away to show as video background
Trees - rustling of leaves-	Move away to minimise noise

Video

Unsteady picture-	Use something (tripod, chair etc.) to hold camera/phone steady.
Camera position-	Preferably at head height or slightly lower and to one side to show harpist's face and hands.
Dull overcast day is best-	Gives an even light and stops you squinting in the bright sunlight. No need to wear sunglasses!!
Bright sunny day-	Sun should be in front or to one side of subject - if the sun is behind the subject it can cause it to appear dark and background can look over-bright.