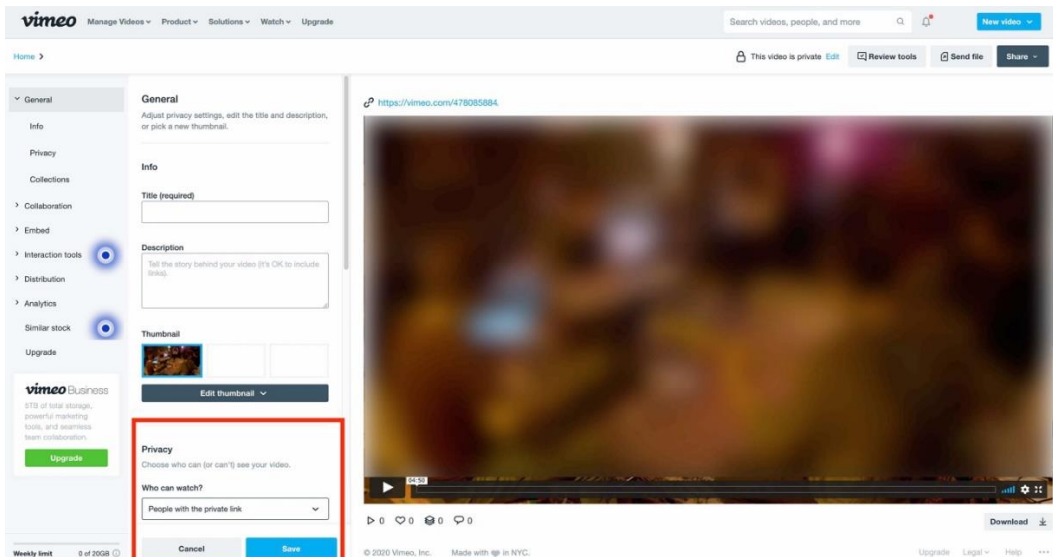


## MA Competition – online submission

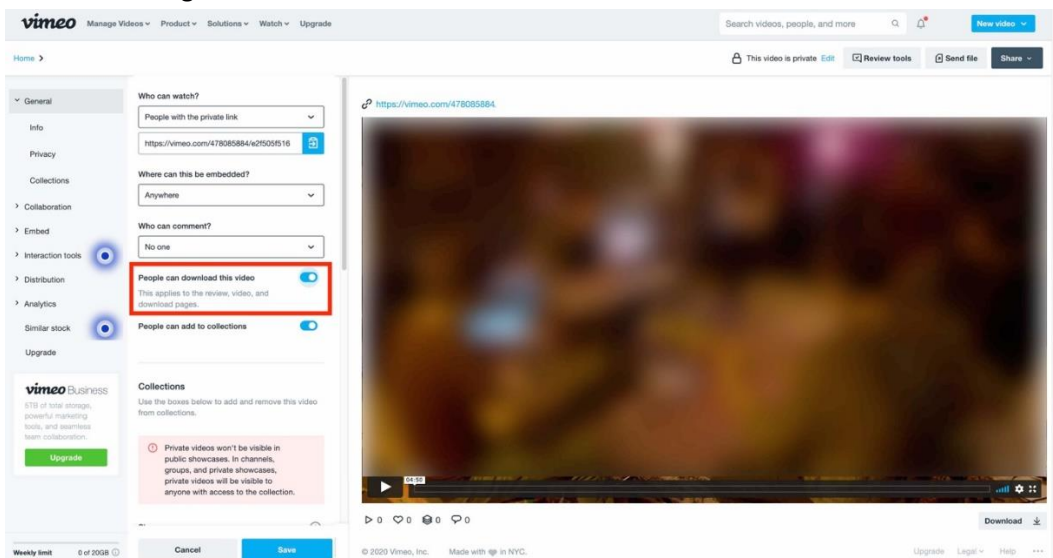
First of all, thank you for your time. We appreciate your effort and willingness to make this video programme. In this briefing, we will explain you what we'll be expecting from you regarding content, technical specifications and the delivery of your videos:

### Delivery specifications:

- **The submission deadline is 31 March 2021 – 23:59 (Brussels time)**
- Your video programme, with a selection of your *competition programme*, should be between 25 and 30 minutes long. The programme has to be divided in separate videos according to the compositions (see *regulations* on the website).
- Please upload your final videos to your Vimeo account.
  - Name every video as follows: “name participant” – “name composition/composer”
  - Make sure the privacy settings are set to “private link” or “People with the private link”. Make sure this setting is saved.



- Make sure to tick the box that allows people to download this video. This will only be used for MA Festival to optionally download your video from the Vimeo server. Make sure this setting is saved.



- Finally, you can upload the video link for every composition on the registration form on the website. Make sure to send it on time (before **the submission deadline: 31 March 2021– 23:59 (Brussels time)**). Our team will quality check your submission before the deadline. If there is a problem, they will contact you. If your video doesn't meet the above standards after the deadline, your submission won't count.

#### Technical specifications:

- Make sure your video meets the following export quality specifications:
  - Resolution: 1920 x 1080 (progressive, not interlaced)
  - Video codec: H.264
  - Video container/extension: MP4
- You are free to decide which device you use to record your performance, as long as decent video quality is guaranteed. The use of professional video equipment is a surplus, but the latest smartphone recording quality will do as well. We prefer you not to record yourself with older recording devices, such as handycams, etc.
- Make sure good audio quality is guaranteed as well. Make sure to avoid external disturbing sounds during your performance.

USB microphones exist in many price classes and generally the rule is, the more expensive, the better the microphone. However, with relatively cheap microphones such as [this one](#), great results can already be achieved. Click here for [more options](#).

Better even, perhaps, are portable recorders such as ZOOM (not to be confused with the zoom.us digital platform), because these devices cannot only be used as good external USB microphones, but they also allow you to prerecord things in pretty high quality. ZOOM [H1n](#) or [H2n](#) are excellent candidates.

- For these ZOOM devices you should use a camera stand (in both cases, a small tripod is included in the APH set or bundle).
  - If needed, use an USB extension cable; up till 5m there won't be any noticeable loss in sound quality.
  - After connecting your ZOOM device to your computer, select 'Audio I/F' on your device, select 'sampling frequency', then '48 kHz' and then 'connect'.
  - Click [here](#) for a list of alternative portable recorders.
  - When launching your zoom.us meeting, select 'settings', then 'audio'; then, under 'microphone', select your device.
  - External cameras equipped with good microphones, such as ZOOM [Q2N-4K](#) or [Q8](#), can be used accordingly.
- The video can be split into several parts (e.g. per movement). But each movement must be recorded in a single and unprocessed take.
  - Remember that we have to see your face and hands clearly.
  - Try to make your video background as clean as possible: make sure the background isn't too messy and if possible, give your setting a creative touch.
  - Make sure the video is well lit: make sure the ensemble members' faces aren't overexposed or too dark. The use of natural lighting will do, but any other creative use of light will be appreciated.
  - Don't add any textual or graphical elements (logo's, etc...) to the video.
  - Last, but not least: enjoy the performance and make sure to convince your audience for your passion for music.