

On Monday the 12th of October 2019 I was emailed that I had won the inaugural Aviva scholarship and entitled 10 free lessons with the TSO principle trumpeter Yoram Levy. Since Yoram Levy had commitments in Melbourne with the ANAM, (Australian National Academy of Music) I did not begin lessons until July 2020. This was just as well as the outbreak of COVID-19 meant that I would not have been able to have face-to-face lessons.

Yoram Levy took me on a path through the history of great orchestral composers. I played works by Mozart, Bach, Handel, Mendelssohn, Beethoven, Mahler, Ravel, Debussy and others. For each of these composers I learnt about the styles, ideas and origins of the themes from each piece.

When studying Baroque composers, I got to try out Yoram Levy's Natural trumpet to understand the origin of all orchestral trumpet music and his Rotary Valve trumpet to understand the two different models of trumpet. In conjunction with learning about orchestral music Yoram Levy also helped me with my tuning, technique, dynamic range and tonguing.

Thank you for this wonderful opportunity, I learnt a lot about orchestral trumpet and I recommend this opportunity to any aspiring trumpet players.