

Joel Quarrington — Virtual Teaching and Technology

Sam— It sounds like you've been part of these kind of international teaching things. What do you think about that?

Joel Quarrington—Yeah, I think it's great, actually. And again, it's like, part of the silver lining of this. It should continue. It beats flying somewhere with a bass. And the trouble is, you know, students have limited resources, they can't get great equipment and stuff. It'd be great if the schools were a bit more helpful and giving them good equipment. But even like—sort of old laptops aren't good enough. You know, everyone should be investing in this stuff because I think it's gonna be here for a while yet—this online environment. And, you know, it's like, you should invest a couple or \$3,000 in getting yourself as well set up as possible.

Sam Sloan — I remember there's probably—this idea going around that maybe virtual learning or teaching will stay, and I'm sure some parts of it will work for many reasons, like remote locations. But you think it will?

Joel Quarrington — Well, yes. I mean, at a certain level, and for certain things, it's really handy. Plus, I know I've got some—well I'm working with people from around—I'm doing some of that, you've seen that platform Play with a Pro.

Sam Sloan — Yeah, I've used it, actually at Domaine.

Joel Quarrington — Yeah, I'm some of that. Yeah, and I'm regularly working with, you know, students in Vancouver, or like last summer I was working with a guy in Singapore. You know to a certain extent it works. You can make it work pretty well, I think. And yeah, it should stick around because there's there is a place for it, I think

How has Covid-19 affected your teaching practice?

Joel Quarrington — Teaching wise, when we were first in lockdown, you know I had—I think I had 15 students at the time that were, you know, completely in the dark. You know, didn't know what was going to happen next, so I didn't waste much time actually, because I actually owned a lot of the equipment. But—see I've got a pretty good setup here. I've got—you can't tell—but I've got like really good lights, I've got a 4k camera, I've got a really good Neumann microphone here. And I'm going through all of this interface stuff with the Zoom thing. I got speakers with a subwoofer and stuff. So, I'm really well set up to teach at home and to hear people. What's more, I've got the highest speed internet possible around here, which I certainly didn't have before, so. And I was doing so much—not just the students I had it in the University of Ottawa, but also the Conservatoire. But I started doing—me and some buddies that are teachers at other places around the world—we started doing teaching at each other's schools. So, I did classes at Coburn and the Guildhall and in Rotterdam, and in Bern in Switzerland. As well as—I did a thing in Trondheim, Norway. Stuff like that. Which has been, I mean, it's been

great. And then I started my summer programs too, like Orford. So, I was I was spending like 30 hours a week with this teaching. Now I'm sick of it [laughs].