

Playing the Trumpet

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I attended high school at Lanition Gymnasium in Limassol, Cyprus, from 1964 to 1970. As soon as I entered high school, at age 12, I became a member of the school band and learned how to play the trumpet. Around the same time, I also joined the marching band of the municipality of Limassol, performing regularly at various local functions. During my military service in the Cyprus Army for a compulsory 2-year term (1970–1972), I was recruited to the Army Band as a full-time soldier/musician. After completing my army service, I moved to Athens to attend university and did not touch a trumpet again for the next 45 years! Around 2008, I felt some nostalgia for the trumpet, bought one, and started playing again at home. In 2011, I interviewed a summer student, Philip Ko, who mentioned in his curriculum vitae that he also played the trumpet. During Ko's summer stint in my laboratory, the two of us decided to play together as a duet based on a Blues Brothers theme (inspired by the 1980 movie *The Blues Brothers*, directed by John Landis and starring John Belushi and Dan Aykroyd).² A picture of the "New Blues Brothers" is shown to the right (Fig. 1). You can view a video of our duet playing the theme from the movie *The Godfather* (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8lC7c_gIXbg), which was composed by Nino Rota. Interestingly, there was a controversy over the score for this movie (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Godfather).



Fig. 1. The "New Blues Brothers," Philip Ko (summer student) and Dr. Diamandis (2011).

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² "The Blues Brothers" is a registered trademark of Universal Studios.

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