

## High Notes and Musical Expression

Jim, thank you very much. Says that I'm "one of the few trumpet players who use [my] range for expression, not just to show that I can play high." Thank you.

There's a song on "Live in Argentina" that I would love for you to hear. And there's even a video of it on YouTube. I played something like - there's this long building phrase, building phrase, building, building, building; and then it goes [plays trumpet], and I go to this high C sharp, this double C sharp, and it's *just the right thing*, and in that right moment; it made it *fragile*. It spoke more clearly than any other choice - any other note below that. It spoke to the *fragility* of that moment, emotionally, for me - of the idea, the feeling, the sentiment, that was coming across. There *needed* to be a high note there.

The note belongs there, and that's when I try to play high notes - it's when I feel like they belong. I do get roped into playing them too often sometimes, in performances where the energy is a bit amped up, and it's a trumpet audience and they're clearly looking for the testosterone jolt. And I really need to stop myself. It's still a shortcoming of mine, and I really, really, really need to keep that *whoa* [down] so that I don't get mislabeled.

And thank you for noticing that, Jim; and responding to that.