

Funding from Angel Early Music supported my first year of postgraduate keyboard study in the Historical Performance department at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London. I came to Guildhall in September 2023 from a background in cathedral organ playing, looking to expand into continuo playing. I had some experience of the harpsichord during my time at university, and my intention for this first year at Guildhall was to develop upon these foundations through the wide ranging opportunities the course provided. In addition to weekly lessons with Nicholas Parle and James Johnstone, specialist classes in continuo playing, keyboard maintenance and treatise study were included. As a keyboard player in the department, it is expected you will accompany undergraduate singers taking the Historical Performance elective, acting as repetiteur for their weekly group class. Projects throughout the year included a performance at the London International Festival of Early Music, an orchestral concert in Milton Court Concert Hall including JS Bach's cantata 'Christ lag in Todesbanden', an 'opera scenes' performance, and performing chamber music at Hatchlands Park. It was fantastic to receive tuition from top musicians, and to be involved in such a thriving musical community in London. I will be continuing my studies at Guildhall in 2024/25, where I have been offered a full scholarship and bursary.