



The Singing Flutist

Tone, Vibrato, Color, Phrasing

The Proficient Flutist

Intuitive, Creative, Analytical, Productive Practice

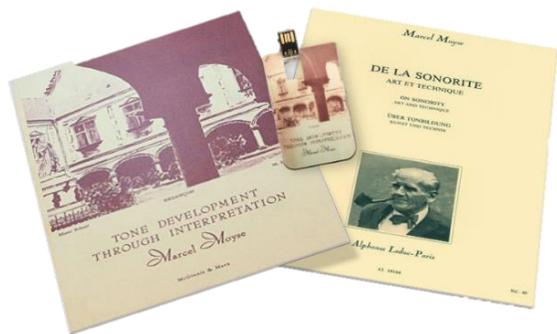
Workshops

by

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The Singing Flutist is a 90-minute interactive class that references many exercises found in the bibles of flute playing - *de la Sonorité* and *Tone Development through Interpretation* by Marcel Moyse.



Designed for serious flute players, including professionals:

- Participants read and record simple melodies in front of their classmates and put them aside for later comparison.
- Next, a series of imitative vibrato exercises draws participants' awareness to their tone and air stream.
- Returning to our melody, we strip it of all nuances - vibrato, dynamics, and direction.
- We add nuances back, layer by layer - as my students like to say, "**LET'S MOYSE IT!**"
- Next, we listen to recordings of renowned singers and observe the liberties they take with the phrasing of operatic arias.
- Once "Moysed", we re-record our melody.
- When we compare our final interpretation with our first, the benefits of the workshop will be clear.

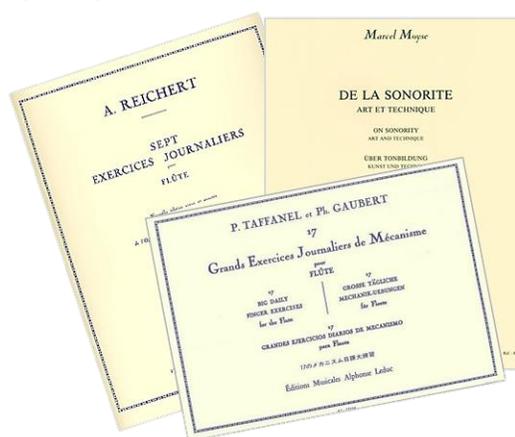
"Don and I have often talked about vibrato and have been surprised to share such similar thoughts. To me, it's a seasoning, to be applied strategically, in varying intensities as appropriate, not to be spread over everything." ~ Scott Cantrell, classical music critic, The Dallas Morning News

The Singing Flutist is not intended to prescribe a certain way of playing; rather, its goal is to add a level of awareness to one's use of vibrato and other nuance tools.

The Proficient Flutist is a 90-minute interactive approach to smoothing one's flute playing by removing knots, or kinks. Per my former teacher Alain Marion, playing the flute is comprised of only three things - **TONE, FINGERS, and TONGUE**. One might argue there are other challenges, such as breathing, phrasing, intonation, rhythm, and so on, but The Proficient Flutist will focus primarily on these key components.

Designed for middle school through professional:

- Participants isolate key variables and focus on them one at a time. Original exercises are used, as well as others from classic flute methods by Taffanel & Gaubert, Reichert, and Moyse (*purchase not required for the class*).



- Next, we focus on creative, intuitive, efficient practice. We will be tasked with **DEFINING** practice, knowing **WHAT** to practice, and learning **HOW** to practice.
- Technical passages will be analyzed, dissected, displaced, grouped, looped, ritarded, and rebuilt for consistency and accuracy.

The Proficient Flutist can be customized to include practice tips for Region and All-State audition music.

"Don's perfect knowledge of music and instrument can only be equaled by the delicacy and elegance of his playing."
 ~ **Alain Marion**, Paris Conservatory



My career has been long and varied. I have studied with, observed, played alongside, and taught flutists from all over the world - flutists of all levels and abilities. My quest for "perfect knowledge of music and instrument", as quoted by Alain Marion (*and used here with a wry wink*), has been filled with the very obstacles my workshops address.