Daily Routine / Warm up

Chris Turner 2000 Revised 26/7/16

Breathing and The Inner Embouchure

* Before Starting Routine warm up with

Low G-G 12-15 Sees each note,

Gdan-Low G 12 r and a d

Gentle Lip Flex C-G-C-G-C X3 2nd, 1st, 1+2, 2+3, 1+3,

1+2+3

Chris Turner - Basics of lesson contents

Pre warm up it is important to begin full and controlled lung usage.

Although 'The Remington Method' (Euphonium soloist early 20th c.) advocates the use of 'conversational breathing' i.e. only take in what you need, no more, no less', I prefer a greater and more controlled air supply. Deep, full, and controlled inhalation / exhalation is used to:-

- focus thought on the air supply,
- b) promote better breathing
- assist in generating a feeling of calm.

As a general rule I tend to promote a 5-point warm up.

Explanation of how and why warm up is constantly given to ensure the students have a full understanding of my method.

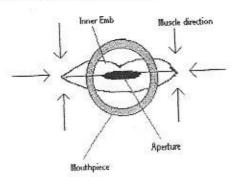
THE PRIMARY PURPOSE OF THE WARM UP IS TO PREPARE THE VARIOUS MUSCLES USED IN PERFORMANCE SO AS TO ACHIEVE MAXIMUM CONTROL.

1) The Inner Embouchure.

Buzzing (at monitored pitches) without mouthpiece

with mouthpiece

with mouthpiece in instrument.



+ Pedal note exercise no.3



BREATHING



Breathing is the MOST important aspect of brass playing and is the FIRST thing you should practice every day. Great breathing will aid in fixing every playing problem. However, most players never practice their breathing! This breathing drill helps to practice controlling the large amount of air needed to play. The most important part of this drill is to STAY RELAXED. This is especially important during the "suspend" portion of the drill. Suspending the air is NOT holding your breath. Your throat should stay open during this entire drill. Suspend the air by simply not breathing in or out while keeping your muscles totally relaxed. Sniff a small amount of air at the nose to be sure that you are suspending your air and NOT holding your breath.

Drill Sergeant's Orders:

- To all five parts of the drill one after another to achieve maximum relaxed respiration. Finish the eight-count drill and go on immediately to the four-count and so on...
- The first part of your body to expand during inhalation is your mid-section.
- During the eight and four-count inhalations, suck in the air at the lips as if you were sipping a milkshake through a straw, slow and steady.
- For the eight and four-count exhalations, put your embouchure into the playing position with the opening small enough to provide resistance. Blow steadily all the way to the end.
- For the one count inhalations, your mouth should look like you are cating a hot potato in
- Remember to breathe or exhale all the way to the end. Do not allow yourself to stop the breathing motion during this exercise.
- SUSPEND your air; don't hold your breath.



Set your metronome to: J=60

Suspend	Exhale	Frequency
8 counts	8 counts (pp)	Do this 2 times
4 counts	4 counts	Do this 3 times
4 counts	4 counts	Do this 3 times
4 counts	1 count	Do this 4 times
35 ACCEPTANCE	1 count (fff)	Do this 7 times
	8 counts 4 counts 4 counts	8 counts 8 counts (pp) 4 counts 4 counts 4 counts



Some players find it useful to pretend to pull back a bow during inhalation (ready), remaining in the fully extended position during the "suspend" portion (aim), and watching the arrow fly through some far-away target during exhalation (fire!).







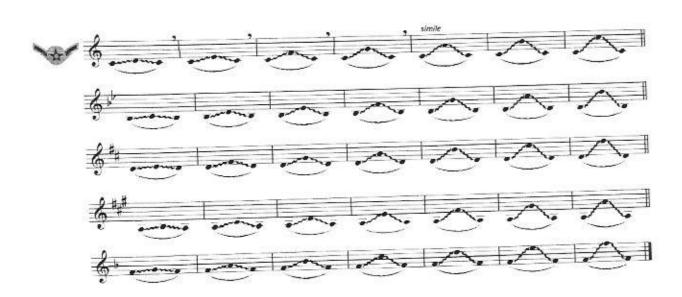
MOUTHPIECE



Your first playing of the day should be done on the mouthpiece. The instrument itself just acts as an amplifier for the sound that you produce on the mouthpiece. Therefore, if you have a full rich sound on the mouthpiece, you will have a full rich sound on the instrument. Mouthpiece exercises should be done at a full dynamic level. They are the perfect follow-up to the breathing drill because you will not be able to achieve a full buzzing sound without great breath support, where you can at times get away with less than great breath support while paying the instrument.

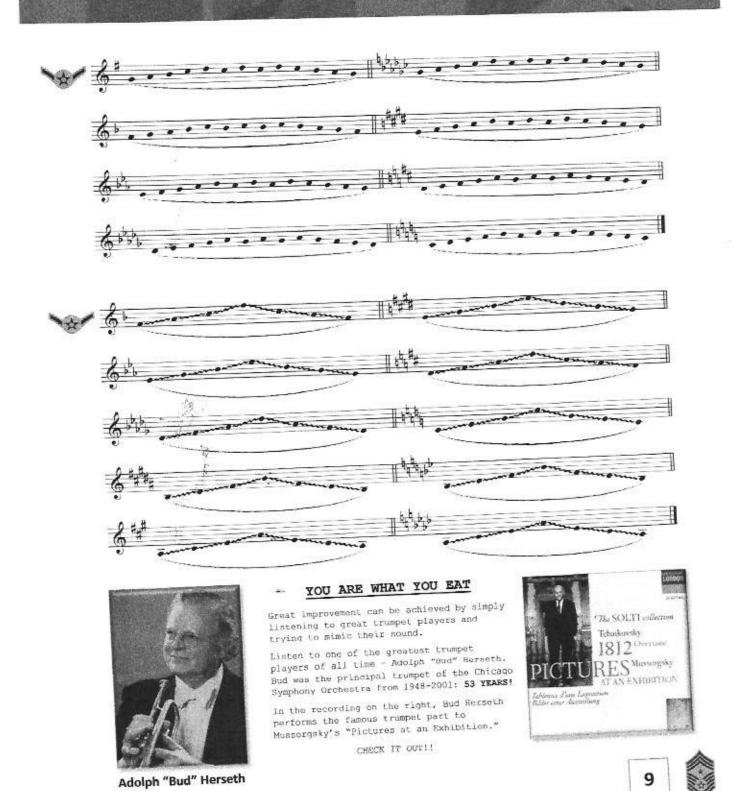
Drill Sergeant's Orders:

- Support your sound at ALL times!
- ₩ Use a piano help with the pitches in each exercise. Play the pitches on piano first, then mimic with the mouthpiece. If you don't have a piano handy, play a reference pitch on you instrument first. (Don't worry about the transposition)
- Play each drill at a forte dynamic level.
- ** Concentrate during the entire drill on achieving a full, even buzz on every note.
- In order to achieve a full buzz, keep a steady embouchure and anchor the mouthpiece on the bottom lip. Use less pressure on your upper lip than on your lower lip. This allows the more pliable lip (upper) the freedom to buzz resulting in a bigger, more focused sound.
- The glissandos are an essential part of this drill. Make them as slow and even as you can. This way you practice bending pitches - a skill necessary to playing in tune in an ensemble.





8



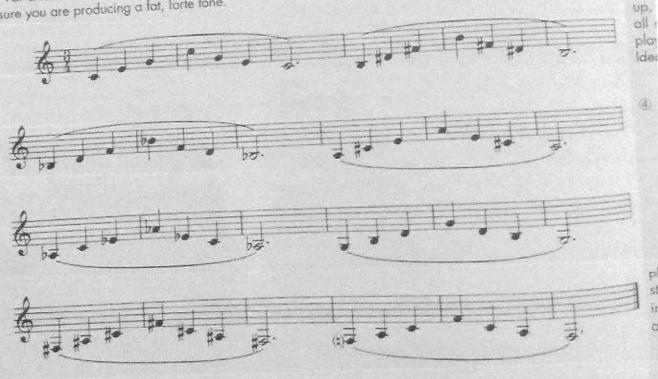
THE WARM UP

N ORDER TO ENSURE consistent improvement through practice, it is absolutely essential to warm up. Preparation is required, not only to meet the physical demands of trumpet playing, but also to initiate the mental focus and concentration necessary for making music. The following is a warm-up routine in four parts with variations for each day of the week. Remember to concentrate on the basic fundamentals from the line note of each new practice day (i.e., beauty of tone and utilizing large volumes of air when inhaling and when blowing through the horn). Finally, prepare mentally to approach whatever exercise or piece of music you are about to play in the most musical and artistic way possible.

 Buzz the mouthpiece in the approximate range indicated. The sound should be "fat," full and without gaps as you slide downward. Keep repeating until there are no gaps. Buzz any where from a few seconds to a few minutes. Be aggressive and demanding of yourself. It is possible to improve your trumpet sound almost immediately by working on the mouthpiece.



For extended buzzing, use the following triads. Check pitches at the piano while buzzing whenever possible Be sure you are producing a fat, forte tone.



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Selected Stamp Excercises

James Stamp





The Outer Embouchure

The Outer Embouchure (general facial muscles)
Lip flexibility studies. Ciclowicz Expansion Stors.

Mirror essential in early /formative stages of development and understanding.

Importance to be placed on strong corners (as above diagram), relationship between facial movement and tongue position, and good air column.

3) Tongue

Its use, position, action, purpose and control of.

Simple studies demonstrating its use to clean or assist it the shape of production.....NOT as THE method of production. i.e. Air starts and produces the notes, the tongue cleans and determines the type of 'front' for the note.

Its use in controlling the size of oral cavity and effect on range etc.

4) Fingers

Technical studies and scales.

These are initially used to promote full and competent use of fingers. Next stage involves not only regurgitating subconscious finger patterns, but also random use of alternate fingering without premeditation. i.e. I would request the use of 1 & 3 valves for all G's or 3rd valve for E's and A's in a particular study. This promotes conscious thought and effort, which leads to greater control of the fingers.

5) Air Flow / Supply

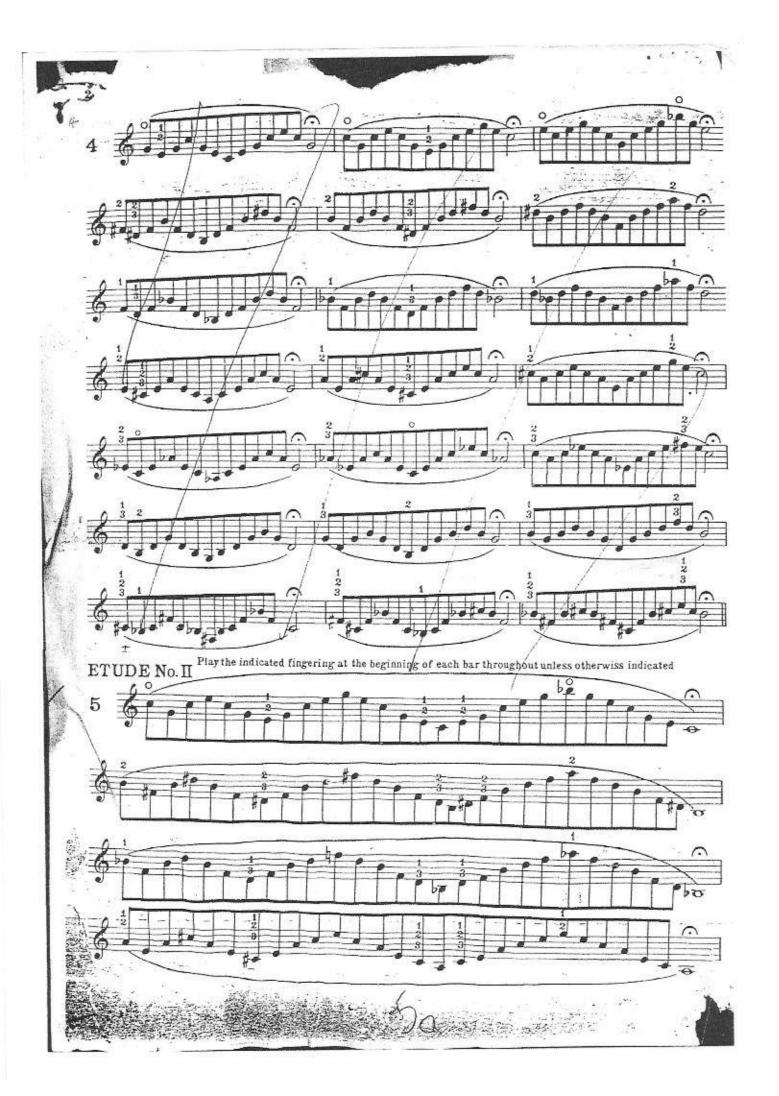
To improve awareness of the air supply.

The use of abdominal muscles is explained forced shouting, coughing etc used as demos.

Studies such as mixed intervals to be played without tongue or slurs. i.e. individual bursts of air.

Very loud and very quiet playing is essential in preparatory studies. Slurred and tongued exercises are useful for the student to monitor airflow. If the air column is interrupted, the sound falters or stops. Attention is given to all elements that could contribute to an airflow interruption, e.g. aperture, tongue position, throat restriction, lack of abdominal support etc.



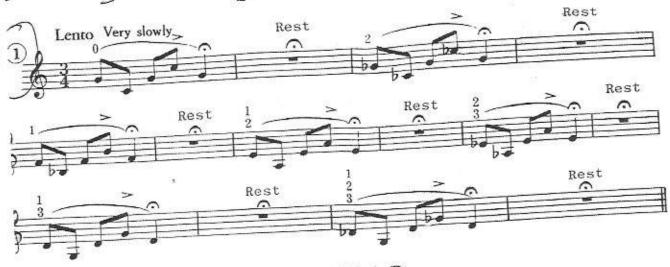


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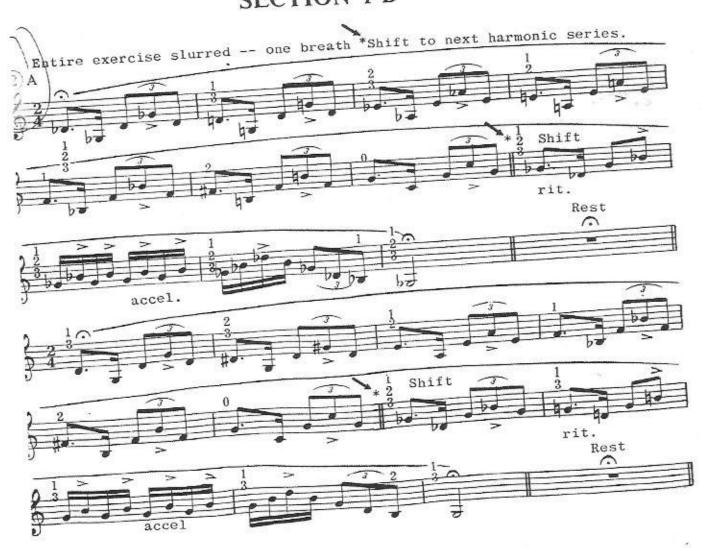
Lip Flexibilities



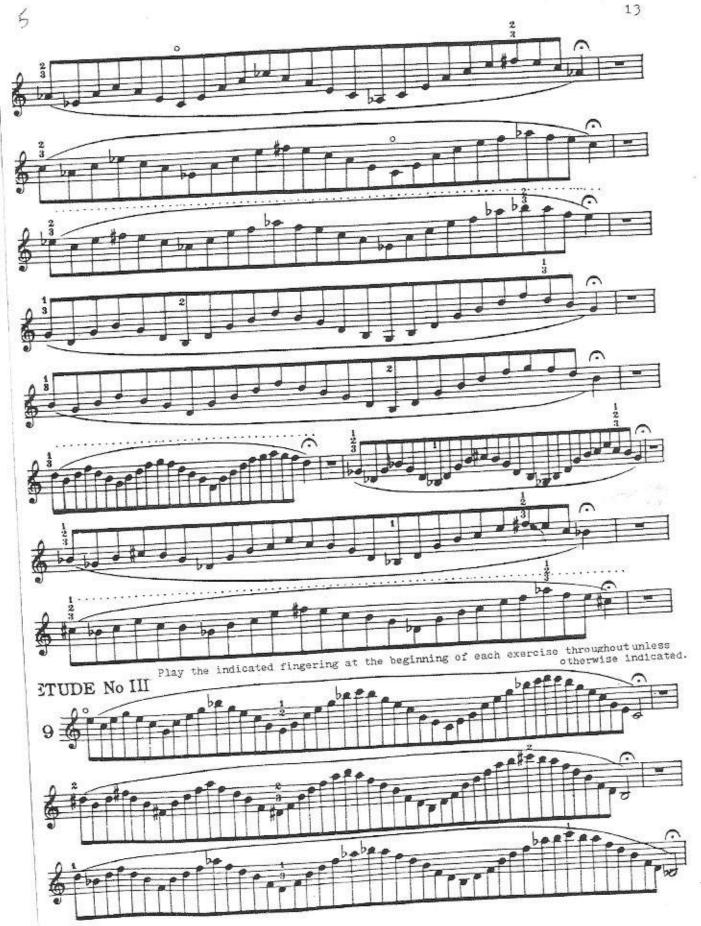
SECTION 1-A



SECTION 1-B



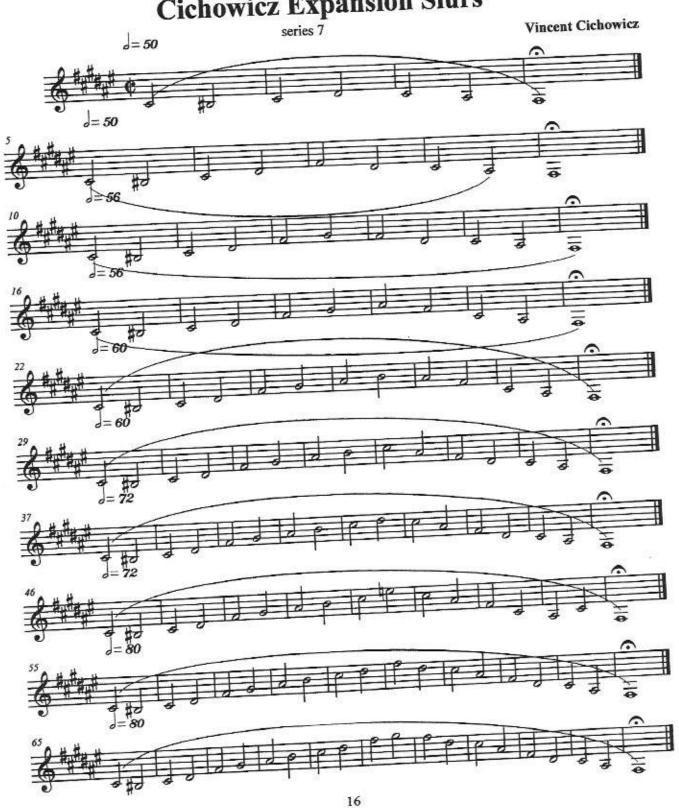


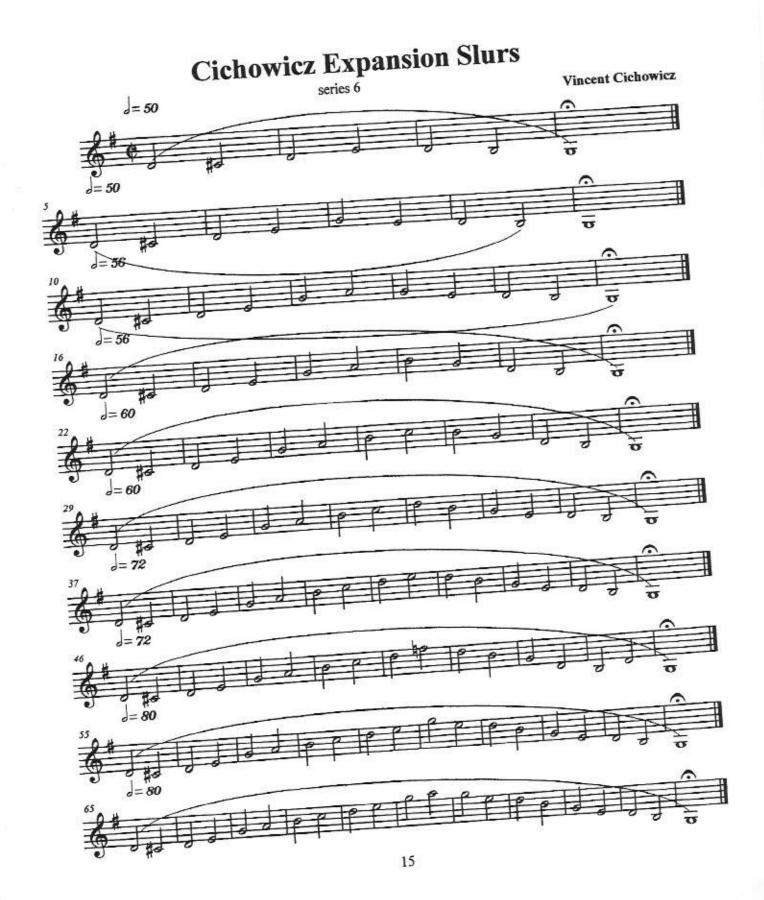


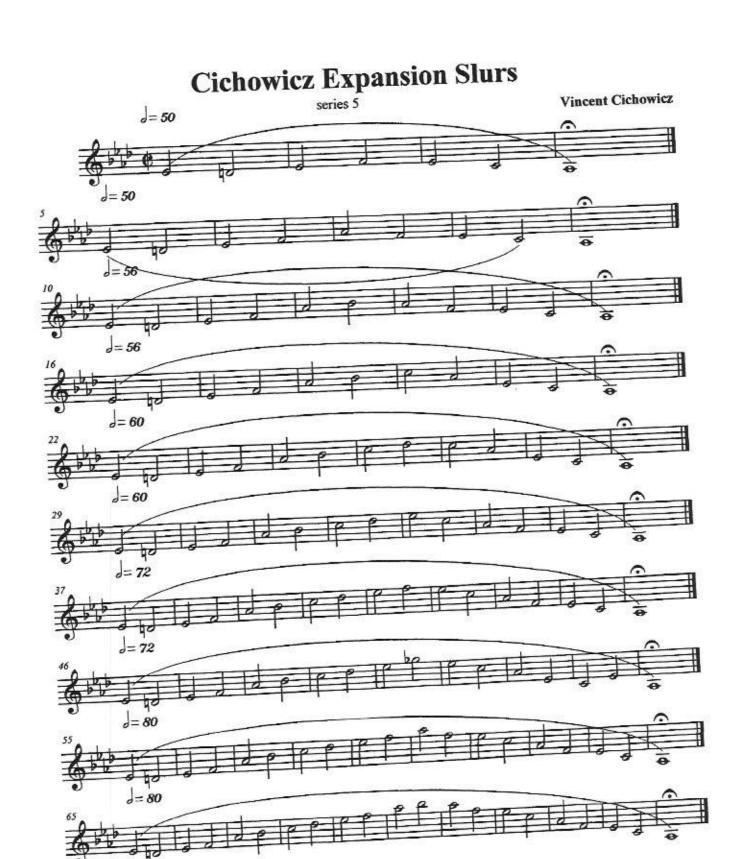


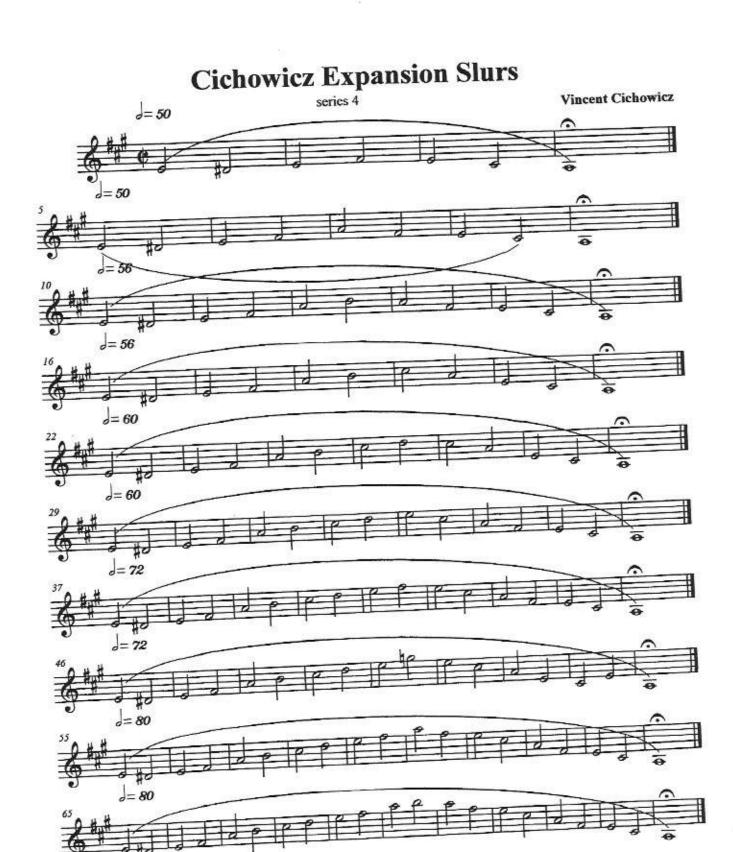


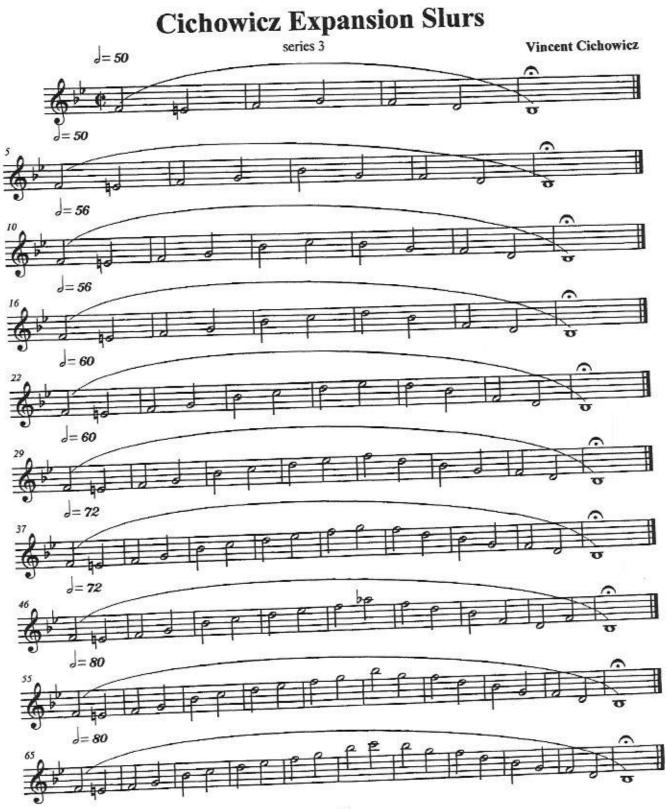
Cichowicz Expansion Slurs

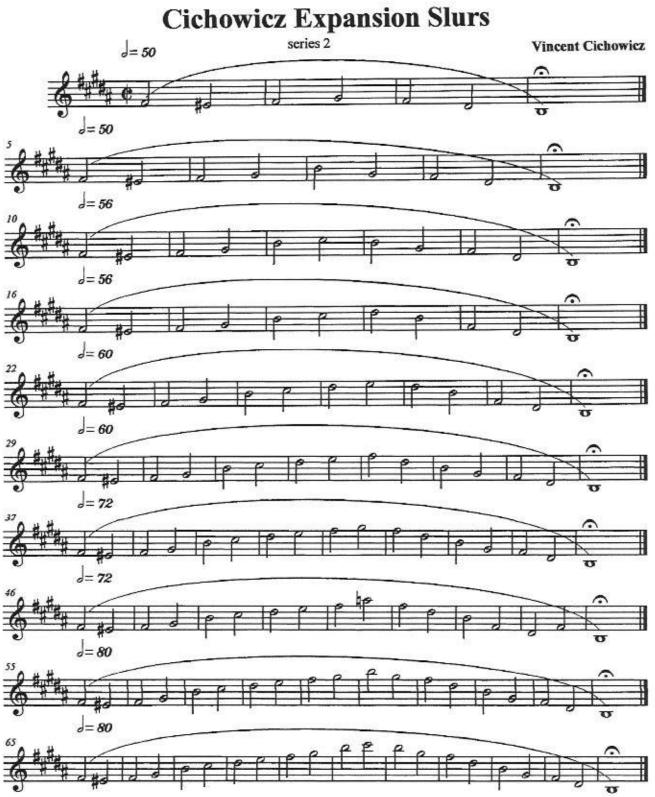


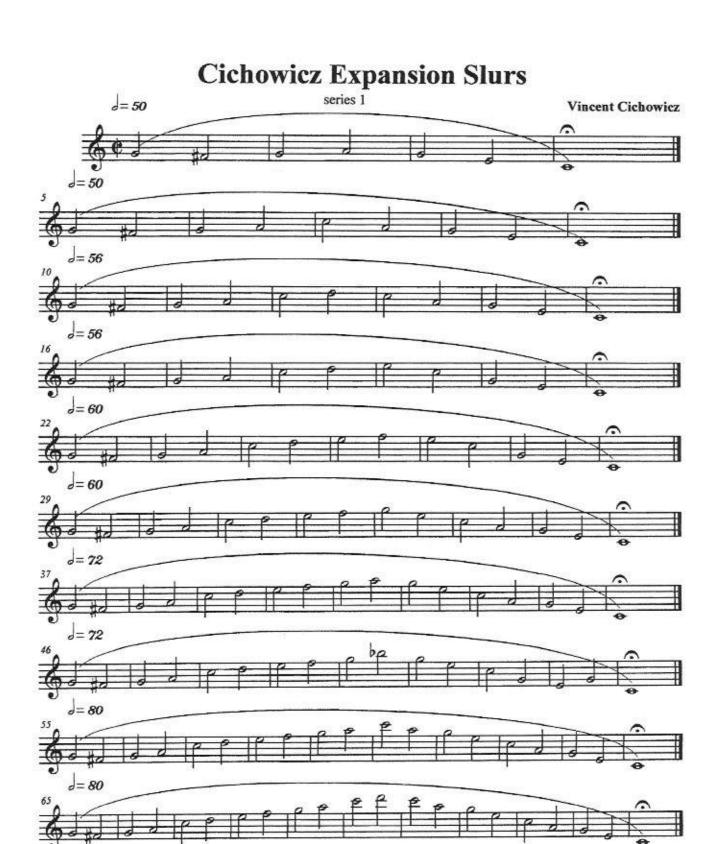












2 Approach the following exercises mentally as if playing one long note. Articulate heavily. Make the legato notes very long and the marcato notes fat and spaced—no breathing allowed in the middle of a line. This method is an excellent tool for relaxing the lips and warming down as well.

For additional "loosening up," repeat the preceding exercise 8va, resting wherever necessary.



Play long tone exercise #1, 3 or 4 with as beautiful a sound as possible.

Start each playing day with the three steps above. Some days may require more warming up than others due to the playing demands of the previous day or your biorhythmic cycle, but warming up well never hurts, it only helps.

Finally, play the technical studies indicated for each appropriate day. In this way you can vary your warm up, maintain interest and learn new scales and fingering patterns quickly. Work gradually day to day through all of the keys until you can play each study with a minimum of technical "hang-ups." It is not necessary to play the studies higher than third space "C" in your warm up, though advanced players may wish to do so. Ideal warm-up time should eventually be 15–20 minutes.

Monday Technical Study #1
Tuesday Technical Study #2
Wednesday Technical Study #3
Thursday Technical Study #4
Friday Technical Study #6
Saturday Technical Study #7
Sunday Technical Study #8

In my opinion, lip slurs (except in the lowest seven partials) are not a particularly good warm up. They are physically demanding and, therefore, useful later in your practice time. Lip strength (more accurately, the physically demanding and, therefore, useful later in your practice time. Lip strength (more accurately, the physically demanding and, therefore, useful later in your practice time. Lip strength (more accurately, the strength of the muscle structure around the lips) as a goal is greatly overemphasized. Although strength is strength of the muscle structure around the lips) as a goal is greatly overemphasized. Although strength is strength of the muscle structure around the lips and advanced technique as a complete package important to a degree, range, endurance, a beautiful sound and advanced technique as a complete package are based on efficiency of breath control, not brute strength.

Tongue

The Outer Embouchure (general facial muscles)

Lip flexibility studies.

Mirror essential in early /formative stages of development and understanding.

Importance to be placed on strong corners (as above diagram), relationship between facial movement and tongue position, and good air column.

Tongue

6

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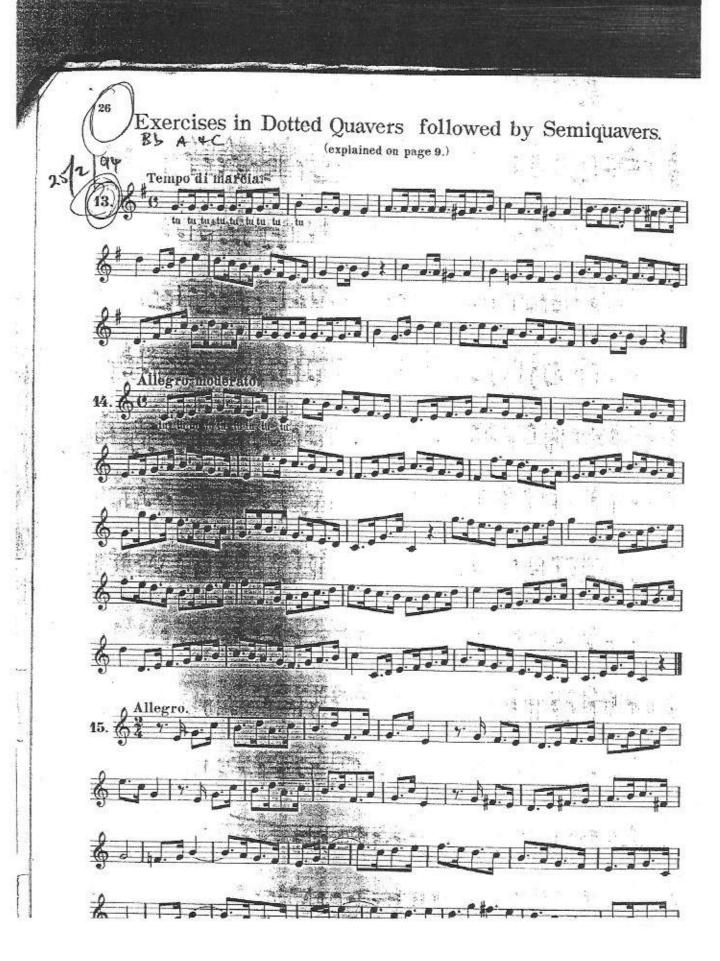
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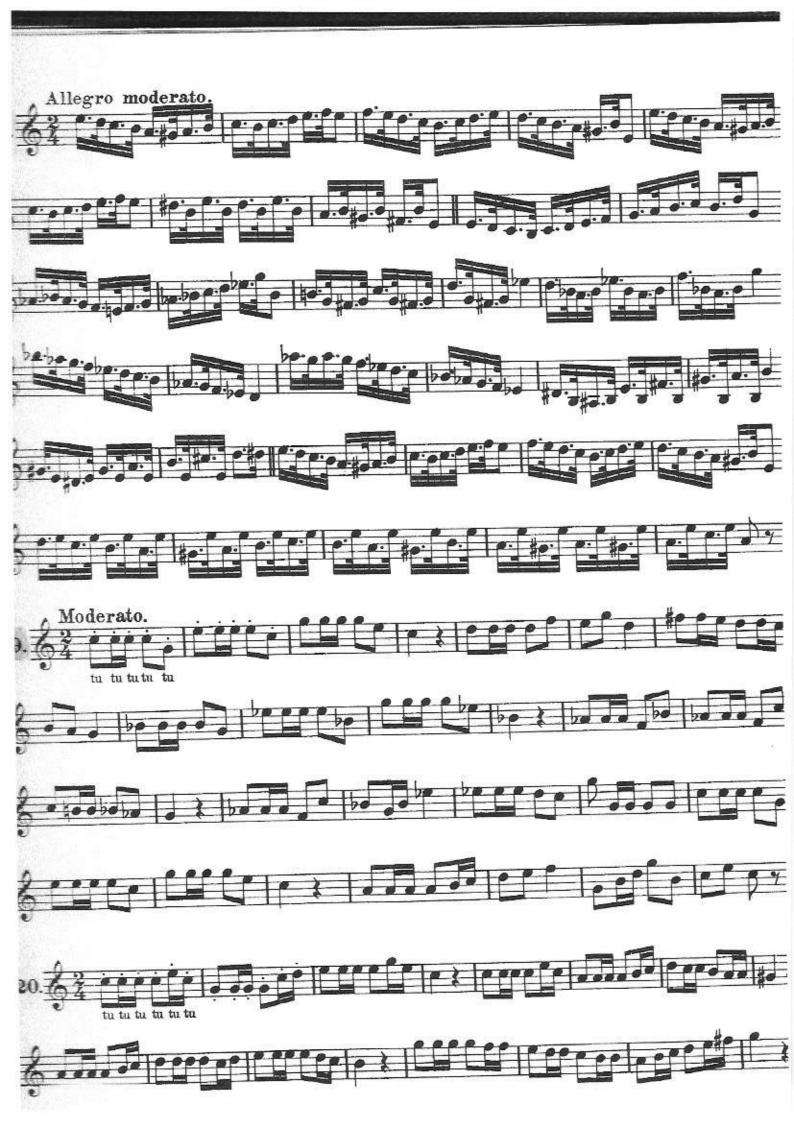
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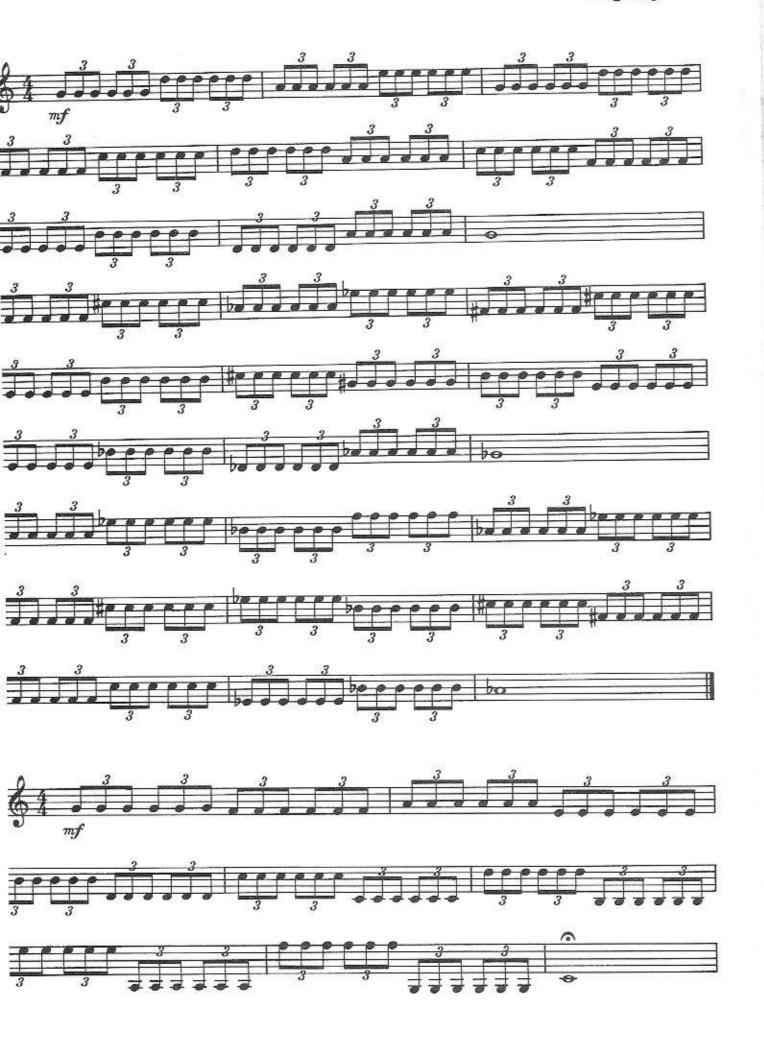












98 Tonguing



Exercises in Triple tongueing. (explained on page 153.)

Tu tu kuTu tu kuTu Tutu ku Tutu ka Ta 14

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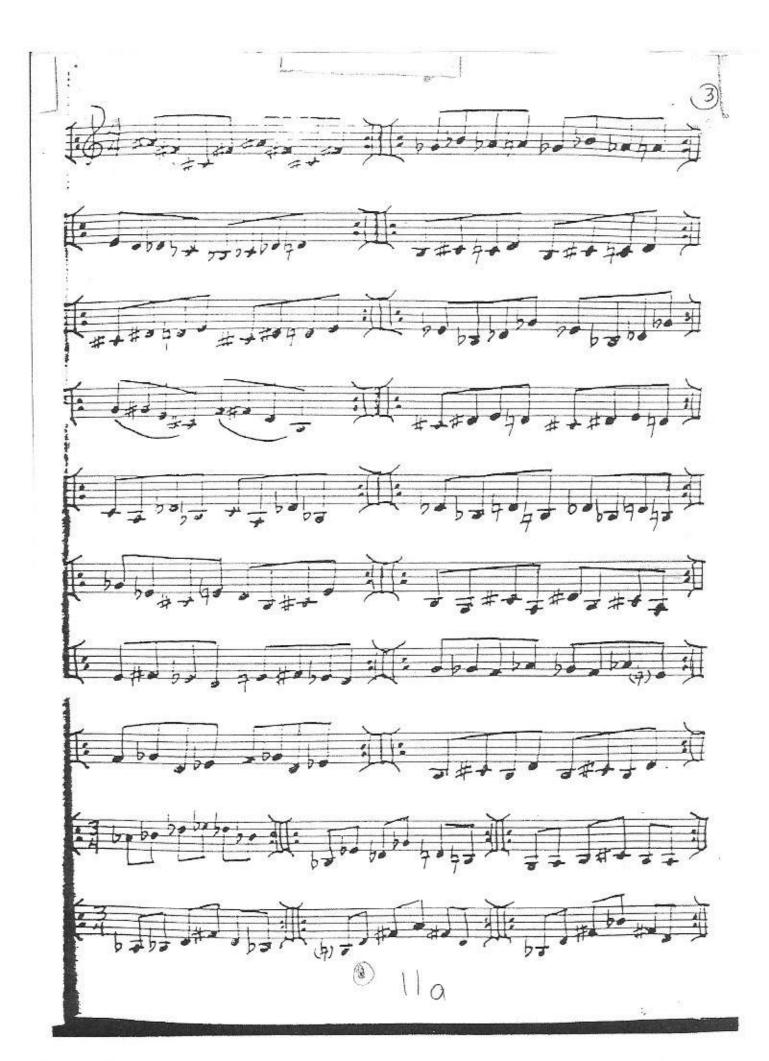
Some exercises to help strengthen the normally weak 2 + 3 Fingers Repeat as many times as possible in one breath - Keep rhythm steady



All exercises should be slurred unless other

All exercises should be slurred unless otherwise marked. Your goal should be o =160 or faster. Use regular fingerings, not alternates.





13

Air Flow / Supply

*

88

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3

sing and play - transpose down all 7 positions.





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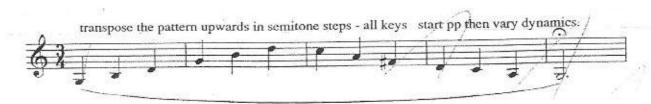




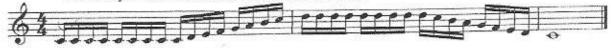
transpose the 2 patterns upwards in semitone steps - all keys start pp then vary dynamics.

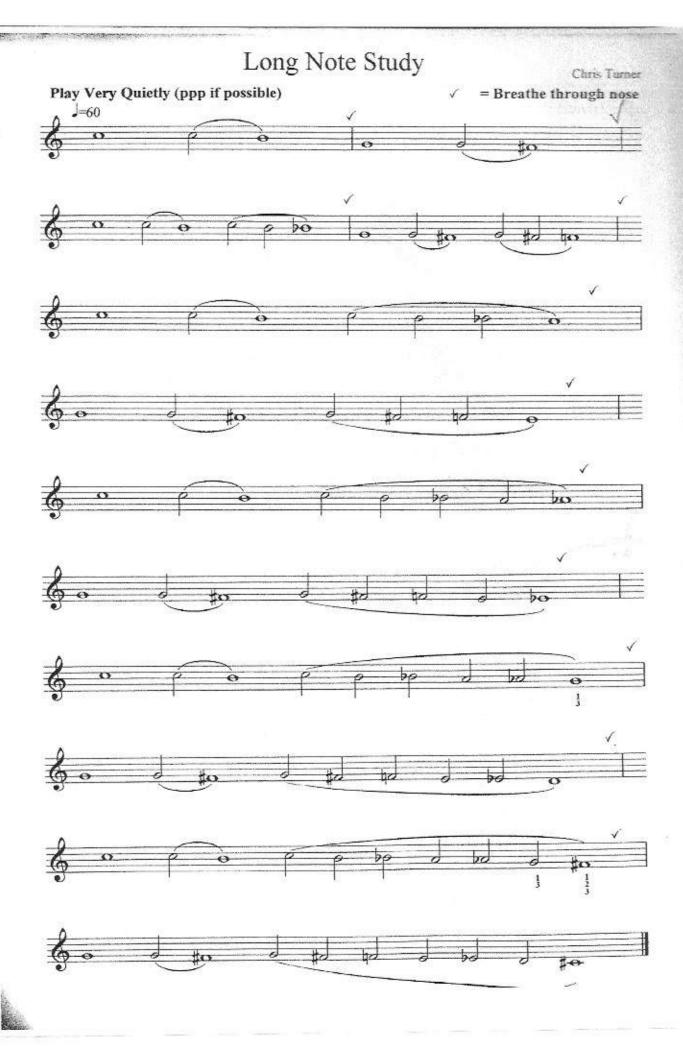




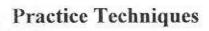


various styles and articulations - aim for consistency.





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A methodical warm up should cover all of the above points. The length of time spent warming up will and should vary according to the performers particular physical condition......this will vary daily.

However, all points in the warm up should be covered in some small way to ensure control.

Moving on to practise, the five topics above can be incorporated but in greater depth into a daily practise routine.

Practice sessions should be methodical and concise. They should always include at least one target and should wherever possible be pre planned. Practice should only continue for the period that one can remain both mentally and physically alert.

Topics for practice should include: -

Sound/tone, range, vibrato, multiple tonguing, intervals, rhythmic studies (metronome work), breath control inc. slow and fast air intake, flexibility, articulation, concentration / focus, ensemble and solo skills - (stylistic awareness).

The need to understand and separate practice from performance practice is essential in preparing the performer for performance.

In performance the need for 'role-play / acting' is vital. The less extrovert or even shy people can become confident performers when taking on the 'performers role'.

The need for control and knowledge of physiological understanding and the need for control and knowledge of causes, manifestations and control mechanisms for the onset of performance anxiety are essential.

The subjects above (plus repertoire enhancement) are all the basic tools required to complete the equation: -

Technical skills (T) + Musical skills/understanding (M) + Performance skills (includes coping with nerves)(Ps) = Quality (Q) Performance (P)

$$T + M + Ps = Q.P.$$

Remove T, M or Ps = a result \cdot Q (e.g. T + Ps = P) i.e. no quality. The most detrimental part of the equation is Ps. Without this element, performance is highly unlikely and most certainly not a Q.P. Chris Turner