TEXTS MARIE-ÈVE RACINE-LEGENDRE • COVER ILLUSTRATION LORRAINE BEAUDOIN • ILLUSTRATIONS STÉPHAN PELETIER DESIGN AND LAYOUT ALBERT CORMIER • ARTISTIC COORDINATION JUDITH PELLETIER

Recorders on the Run





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Jeunesses Musicales Canada

For more than 60 years, the Jeunesses Musicales Canada (JMC) organization has been dedicated to promoting classical music with young Canadians and their families. Through their many productions, JMC presents more than 500 concerts each year in schools, concert halls and culture houses across the country.

This is the Teaching Guide for the concert Recorders on the Run. It contains a lot of information and different activities ranging in difficulty from which educators and teachers can draw based on the age of the children. The guide may be used to prepare young audiences for the concert, as well as to review and build on the learning initiated at the event.

The purpose of the Recorders on the Run concert, which has been available to young audiences since October 2014, is to allow school children to rediscover and appreciate an instrument they know well: the recorder. Putting all their creativity and talent to work, the members of the Flûte Alors! ensemble make use of all the technical and expressive qualities of this surprising instrument, to the great delight of little ears!

Enjoy the concert!



Recorders on the Run

Artists: Flûte Alors! Vincent Lauzer, Marie-Laurence Primeau, Alexa Raine-Wright et Caroline Tremblay

Design and stage direction: Judith Pelletier and Flûte Alors!

THE CONCERT'S ARTISTS ANSWER A FEW QUESTIONS

HOW OLD WERE YOU WHEN YOU STARTED

STUDYING MUSIC?

Caroline: 8 Alexa: 5 Marie-Laurence: 5 Vincent: 4

WHO IS YOUR FAVOURITE COMPOSER?

Caroline: Georg Philipp Telemann Alexa: Sergueï Rachmaninoff Marie-Laurence: Ludwig Van Beethoven and Jean-Philippe Rameau Vincent: Georg Philipp Telemann

NAME ONE OF YOUR FAVOURITE MOVIES

Caroline: Life of Pi Alexa: Lord of the Rings Marie-Laurence: The Tiger and the Snow Vincent: The Spanish Apartment

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE SPORT?

Caroline: Yoga Alexa: Skiing Marie-Laurence: Dance Vincent: Badminton

NAME ONE ATHLETE YOU ADMIRE

Caroline: Bruce Lee (martial arts) Alexa: Jackie Chan (martial arts) Marie-Laurence: Kawhi Leonard (basketball) Vincent: Roger Federer (tennis)



THE STORY OF THE CONCERT



Recorders on the Run

After a concert, the musicians from the *Flûte Alors!* ensemble congratulate themselves on the great tour they have just completed. Then they talk about what they're going to do during their vacation. Marie-Laurence dreams of travelling. Alexa plans on crossing off a few items from her to-do list. As for Vincent, a vacation is out of the question: he's much too busy!

So Caroline suggests a new musical challenge to her bandmates: Recorder Olympics! She has already signed the group up for the competition, because she feels that they have an excellent chance of winning. The problem is that this international event is only a short week away! How is the group going to pull it off?

The four friends has little time to prepare. Can they do it? To show their skill, they train tirelessly in a variety of musical styles and recorder sizes! The competition is fierce, and the athletes must face many challenges. Fortunately, the quartet can count on the support of its audience!

WHAT IS A QUARTET?

A quartet is a group of four performers who put their instruments or their voices together to make music. The name quartet is derived from the Latin "quattuor", which means "four". In the *Recorders on the Run* concert, you can hear a quartet of recorders of different sizes and registers.

One of the most common classical music formations remains the string quartet, which is composed of two violins, a viola and a cello. Still, a quartet can be a combination of practically any instruments!







© REPERTOIRE HEARD DURING THE CONCERT



in D minor

by Antonio Vivaldi

J *I Continenti* by Jan Van der Roost



THE DISCONCERTING MAESTRO EXPLAINS



OTHE WORLD OF RECORDERS

EVERYBODY THINKS THEY KNOW RECORDERS

BECAUSE THEY ARE EXTENSIVELY USED IN SCHOOLS.

BUT DESPITE ITS FAMILIAR LOOK, THIS INSTRUMENT CAN BE VERY SURPRISING!

The recorder, sometimes called the "block flute", is a wind instrument (or aerophone) from the woodwinds family. It is most often made of wood (boxwood, granadilla, maple, pearwood, rosewood, ebony) or plastic. It exists in several sizes and registers, which we will see a little later.

All flutes create sound using the same principle: a flow of air from the musician's breath is blown on a tapered beak (or mouthpiece) and caused to vibrate in a tube. The recorder mouthpiece has a narrow windway that works a bit like a whistle. A block inside the mouthpiece forms the "floor" of this windway.

All recorders have seven holes on the top for the fingers and one on the underside for the thumb. The last two holes are often doubled. By closing and opening these holes with the fingers, the recorder player causes the length of the vibrating air column to change, which alters the pitch of the sound.





You are probably familiar with the transverse flute, usually simply called a flute. Although it is made of metal, it is also part of the woodwinds family, like the recorder. But instead of having a mouthpiece and holes for the fingers, it has a blow hole – or embouchure – and a system of keys. In class, look for different recordings to compare the sound made by these two related instruments. Enjoy the music!



The great recorder family

The recorder exists in ten sizes, from the highest to the lowest registers. They are: garklein, sopranino, soprano, alto, tenor, bass, great bass, contrabass, sub-great bass and sub-contrabass. The four most common sizes are soprano, alto, tenor and bass.







OTHE RECORDER THROUGH THE AGES

The recorder has been around for more than seven centuries! It has evolved quite a bit with time, but it never stopped charming the ears of music-lovers with its mellow sound. Because of its long history, the recorder enjoys a varied and abundant repertoire.

The oldest known recorders were made in Europe during the Middle Ages, around the 14th century. But the origins of this instrument are probably more ancient still.

During the Renaissance, in the 15th and 16th centuries, musical ensembles made up of instruments from the same family but of different sizes were very popular. These ensembles are called "consorts", a name derived from the Latin "consors", meaning "associate" or "companion". In addition to recorder consorts, there were lute and viol consorts.

During the Baroque period, around the 17th century, the recorder entered its golden age. It was appreciated both as a solo and an orchestra instrument. Many famous musicians composed for the recorder, including Händel, Hotteterre, Monteverdi, Van Eyck, and Vivaldi. Its making and sound continue to evolve. Today it is made in three separate parts, as seen in this diagram from the Encyclopédie de Diderot et D'Alembert.

The oldest known recorder, found

near Dordrecht, Holland.

The Triumph of Venus (detail, 1470), by Francesco del Cossa



La Virgen con el Niño (detail, c. 1390), by Pere Serra



An assortment of recorders as they were built during the Renaissance.



Image illustrating the article «flûte à bec» (recorder) in the encyclopedia.



Singing Boy with Flute (c. 1623-25), by Frans Hals I.

During the Classical and Romantic periods, from about the middle of the 18th century to the 19th century, the recorder lost some of its popularity to the transverse flute. It wasn't entirely forgotten, but it was seen much less often. Two cousins of the recorder remain in use today: the flageolet in France and England, and the **czakan** in Austria and Hungary.







THE RECORDER THROUGH THE AGES

The recorder was rediscovered at the turn of the 20th century. Around the 1940's, thanks to the industrial manufacturing of plastic recorders, this inexpensive, portable and easy-to-play instrument was distributed worldwide!



An Aman brand plastic recorder sold in the United States.

Around the 1950's, the recorder became the perfect beginner's instrument. The soprano recorder is a good size for the hands of young children, it is easy to learn and allows for early introduction to ensemble playing.



Mario Duchesne's recorder instruction book has been very popular in Québec since the 1960's.

With a lot of determination and passion, beginner recorder players grow into great virtuosos! The recorder is taught at a superior level in conservatories and universities. And as the members of *Flûte Alors!* can attest, it is possible to have a very exciting career as a true recorder professional. Like piano and violin, the recorder has its own famous virtuosos, such as Frans Brüggen, Piers Adams, Jill Kemp and Michala Petri, to name only a few.



The members of Flûte Alors !



Michala Petri, a famous recorder virtuoso.

The recorder has played an important role in the early music movement of the 20th century. But it is not only a historical instrument! Several modern composers have helped make it popular again, including Britten, Hindemith and Kodály. To this day, contemporary music creators explore the instruments' technical potential, searching for new means of expression. The recorder is even sometimes found in popular music and jazz!



SABOUT THE ENSEMBLE FUTE

Dynamic and versatile, Montreal-based ensemble *Flûte Alors!* is composed of four newgeneration recorder players. Unique in their category, the ensemble is the only professional recorder quartet in Canada. Through their masterful technique and extraordinary musicality, *Flûte Alors!* presents the recorder as an eloquent instrument capable of expressing the most extreme emotions and the subtlest of nuances.

Flûte Alors! has been awarded prizes and nominations at the national and international level. The ensemble has been featured in numerous music festivals (including the Montreal Baroque Festival, the Montreal Recorder Festival, and the Concerts aux Îsles du Bic), and has performed in France, Germany, and the United States. *Flûte Alors!* performed in nearly 40 cities across Eastern Canada as part of the Jeunesses Musicales du Canada 2012-2013 tour season. The ensemble has also been selected to give a Debut Atlantic tour in March 2014. Their first album, Kaléidoscope, was released in 2011.

Dedicated to pushing the limits of the recorder and expanding the instrument's repertoire, *Flûte Alors!*'s repertoire encompasses music from the Renaissance and Baroque eras, as well as contemporary, jazz, and pop works. The ensemble often collaborates with other artists from diverse musical backgrounds, and frequently commissions works for recorder ensemble from the new generation of composers, in addition to creating their own arrangements.

Flûte Alors! performances take the audience on an eclectic voyage across time and space, offering listeners an array of different flavours and a colourful palette of sound that help them hear recorder music in a whole new way.

For more information about the Flûte Alors! ensemble, visit their website at www.flutealors.com



Alexa Raine-Wright



Vincent Lauzer



Caroline Tremblay



Marie-Laurence Primeau



SOLFA TEACHES US

THE RECORDER TECHNIQUE

The basic principles of recorder playing are fairly easy to learn, which is why it is taught in elementary school. But that doesn't mean it's an easy instrument to master! Even once you know the basic fingerings, you need a lot of practice to produce a tuneful and sustained sound – neither too soft nor too loud! And the more you progress in the study of this instrument, the more complex the fingering, articulation and blowing techniques become.

FINGERING TECHNIQUE:

A good recorder player must develop excellent coordination and agility to master fingering sequences which can be very difficult. Since the recorder does not have keys, almost all semi-tones are played using fork fingerings. Sometimes the foot joint even has to be blocked with the knee to produce certain notes!



ARTICULATION TECHNIQUE:

The recorder is a very expressive wind instrument: very subtle variations in the pronunciation of articulation syllables are perceptible to hearing. Like an experienced violinist who knows which bow strokes to use, an expert recorder player knows how to combine different consonants (T, D, R, L, K, G), to articulate rhythms and melodies properly.



BLOWING TECHNIQUE:

You need a good ear and excellent breath control to play the recorder. For a given fingering, you can get a semi-tone variation just based on how hard the player blows!

CIRCULAR BREATHING

is a technique used by many instrumentalists. It consists in breathing through the nose while continuing to blow out the air stored in the cheeks. It gives the impression of the musician never taking a breath!

To learn even more on technique, fingerings, and the history and making of this fascinating instrument, visit the website of recorder-maker Philippe Bolton.

(11)



Theme from the Beach Boys' I GET AROUND

Arrangement by Nicolas G.-Godbout





CLUB

DUO

FLUTE

GOLD

HUM

LONG MEDALS

FINGERS

Recorders on the Run MYSTERY WORD

Find and circle the following words in the grid. With the 12 remaining letters, you can form an essential quality that musicians and athletes have in common.

ALTO	
ATHLETE	
BACH	
BAROQUE	
BASSO	
BATON	
BREATH	
BRONZE	

MOUTH OBOE OLYMPICS PLAY SILVER SLIT SOPRANO SPEED

TEMPO TENOR TONE TWISTER WOOD

TEAM

0	Ν	Α	R	Ρ	0	S	D	Т	Ρ	Ε
0	Т	S	D	0	0	В	U	0	Z	Ε
т	Е	R	Е	L	S	L	0	Ν	0	R
L	Α	Е	Е	Y	S	S	0	E	Ε	W
Α	Μ	G	Ρ	М	Α	R	0	Ν	Ε	Т
V	Е	Ν	S	Ρ	В	Α	С	Η	G	Ε
М	Ν	I	S	I	R	Н	Т	U	0	Μ
Е	0	F	Ι	С	F	U	Y	Α	L	Ρ
D	Т	Ι	L	S	L	Μ	Α	Ν	D	0
Α	Α	U	V	Е	U	Q	0	R	Α	В
L	В	R	Е	Α	Т	Н	L	Ε	Т	Ε
S	С	Ε	R	R	Е	Т	S	I	W	Т



EVEN MORE FUN

SEVEN ERRORS GAME

There are seven differences between the two illustrations. Find them! Then, identify the four sizes of recorder hidden in the image: soprano, alto, tenor and bass. Good luck!





OACTIVITIES FOR TOTS...

Rhythmic Relay

Make a train with your friends. Sit on the floor, in a straight line or in a circle, one behind the other (you should see your friend's back).

Your teacher will tap a short rhythmic pattern on the back of the friend sitting at the head of the train. The friend will then tap the same pattern on the back of the friend in front of him/her, and so on.

At the end, the last friend on the train will clap the rhythm with his hands.

This is an exercise that requires concentration and teamwork.

Silent challenge

During a concert, you must sit quietly. Sometimes the story will make you laugh, or the musicians will ask you to make certain sounds, but the rest of the time, you have to remain quiet so that the artists can concentrate and give a great show.

How long can you and your friends remain completely quiet?

Try together several times, trying to improve your record each time.

Blow paintings

Place drops of paint one by one on a large sheet of non-absorbent paper. Before the drops dry, blow on them with a straw to create lines and shapes. You can create beautiful paintings using this technique, which requires good breath control, like a recorder player.









©INTERMEDIATE ACTIVITIES...

Make a case for your soprano recorder

Using a sheet of fabric or felt in the colour of your choice, cut a rectangle 7 cm wide by 40 cm long. Cut a second rectangle in an assorted colour. Make it the same width, but 45 cm long.

On a large needle, thread a piece of thread or wool about one meter long. Sew the two rectangles of fabric on three sides, leaving one of the ends open to create a flap. Simply insert the needle about 1 cm from the edge, over and under, at intervals of a few millimeters. Remember to start and end your sewing with a lock stitch to make sure the thread stays in place! Turn the case you have just sewn inside out to hide the seams. Then, decorate it using buttons, pieces of fabric, glitter, etc.

1 / ----

That's all! Your case is now ready to receive a recorder. To close it, secure the flap with a button, an elastic, a piece of wool or a nice ribbon which you can sew or glue on.





Tongue twisters

A good recorder player must have a nimble tongue. To excel like a recorder expert, practice with these tongue twisters!

A dragon will come and beat his drum Ra-ta-ta-ta-ta-ta-ta-ta-too at a minute or two to two today.

The two-toed tree toad tried to tread where the three-toed tree toad trod.

Peter poked a poker at the piper, so the piper poked pepper at Peter.

Top chopstick shops stock top chopsticks.

Cheerful Charlie chose a cheesy chowder.

Repeat three times in a row:

I can't say this text, I'm too stressed!

Two tiny tigers take two taxis to town.

Sally sells seashells by the seashore.

Which witch wished which wicked wish?

During the show, you will hear several more tongue twisters. Note them and practice saying them as quickly as you can!



Sculpt a recorder out of a carrot!

+ 70 000

Did you know that you can carve instruments out of fresh vegetables, such as carrots or zucchini? Follow this recipe to create your own wind ensemble!







JEUNESSES MUSICALES CANADA TEACHING GUIDE - RECORDERS ON THE RUN

THE RECIPE (cont'd)

3

With a paring knife, make a small slit 1 cm deep about 3 cm from the end of the tube. About 2.5 cm from this slit, make another cut at about a 30 degree angle towards the first cut in order to remove a small triangle.









Cut the underside of the end of the flute at an angle to create a more comfortable mouthpiece. Blow into the instrument to test it. At this stage, your flute should be able to produce a whistle sound. "Choo-Choo!"



bit. To be able to tune your flute properly, drill one note at a time, starting about 4 cm from the opening and every 2.5 cm after that. Start with small holes – you can always make them bigger. There you go! You have made a small recorder that can play a few notes.

6

Now you just need to make a few holes on top of the flute using the small wood



To make sure it keeps for a long time, store it in a jar of water in the refrigerator, or wrap it in a damp cloth.

Bon appétit!



Olympic Quiz

RULES OF THE GAME

In class, form TEAMS of four players at random. Drawing inspiration from "Recorders on the Run", each team must choose a name that evokes both music and sports, for example "The Running Drummers" or "The Piano Pros"! A HOST is chosen to ask the questions to participants. A REFEREE is also appointed to make sure the rules are followed during the game. With the help of the teacher, all the students write a few dozen QUESTIONS related to the content of the "Recorders on the Run" concert and Teaching Guide, or more general questions on the themes of music and Olympic sports.



To play, each team throws the die in turn. The players have a limited amount of time to answer the questions or perform in the event.

The team with the highest number of points gets the Gold medal! The teams in second and third place get the Silver and Bronze medals respectively.



Olympic Quiz (cont'd)

Here are a few examples of questions and events. Multiple-answer questions

BRONZE questions

- How many holes does a recorder have? (Eight.)
- What size recorder is generally taught in elementary schools? (Soprano.)
- In what country did the Olympic Games originate? (Greece.)

SILVER questions

• During what historical period did the recorder appear?

(The Middle Ages.)

- Starting from the Renaissance period, what word was used to designated a group of recorder players?
 (A consort.)
- In what year were the Winter Olympic Games held in Vancouver? (In 2010.)

GOLD questions

- What technique allows wind players to give the impression they never take a breath? (Circular breathing.)
- What is the name of the recorder with the highest pitch of all?

(The garklein.)

- What are the colours of the five Olympic rings? (Blue, yellow, red, green and black.)
- Name as many composers as you can whose works were heard during the "Recorders on the Run" concert.

(The six composers are: The BEACH BOYS, Bill CONTI, Dick KOOMANS, Matthias MAUTE, Jan VAN DER ROOST and Antonio VIVALDI.)

• Name as many events as you can that are part of the Olympic decathlon?

(The ten decathlon events are: 100 metres, 400 metres, 100 metres hurdles and 1500 metres; shot put, discus throw, javelin throw; long jump, high jump and pole vault.)

Individual events

• Repeat this tongue twister five times without laughing:

Top chopstick shops stock top chopsticks.

«All for One!» events

• At each Olympic Games as well as every major sporting event, national anthems are sung. Sing the Canadian national anthem!

!! May the best team win!!





YOU CAN KEEP THIS GUIDE AND REFER TO IT EVERY TIME YOU GO TO AN OPERA OR CONCERT.

It sets out various rules that you must follow before, during and after the concert, and information about applause, an ancient custom that has continued to this day.

Read the guide carefully to become an experienced concertgoer!

CLAP YOUR HANDS

To show your appreciation during a concert, you can clap your hands.

In a concert, it is customary to applaud the performers at the end of each piece. If the piece is in several movements, you should wait for the end of the last movement and leave a moment of silence, just as the musicians leave a moment of silence between movements.

At the opera, a different system applies. The audience often applauds the singers at the end of a wellknown or difficult aria, as well as applauding at the end of each Act. At jazz concerts, the audience often applauds the players after each solo improvisation.



BEFORE THE CONCERT

DURING THE CONCERT

To make sure you don't distract the artists and audience, turn off any electronic device (watch, cell phone, etc.)

Make sure you don't arrive late for the concert. It is preferable to arrive 10 to 15 minutes before the concert is scheduled to begin. This will give you time to read the program!



To show your respect for the musicians and the audience, don't talk to the people next to you. Silence is essential to allow the musicians and everybody at the concert to concentrate.

Candies and sweets should only be eaten outside the concert hall. They can make a lot of noise and disturb your neighbours if you unwrap them during the concert.

Unless there's an emergency, never leave the concert hall during the performance. If possible, wait for the intermission.

The musicians on the stage are aware of everything going on in the hall and hear all the sounds made by the members of the audience. By keeping a respectful silence, you will allow the performers to give the best concert possible.

AFTER THE CONCERT

Make sure you haven't forgotten anything on or under your seat. Leave the concert hall calmly, without pushing or shoving. Take the time to discuss the concert with your friends.

It is often possible to meet the performers after a concert to congratulate them or ask them questions. Sometimes, the musicians come back on stage to meet the audience members. If this is the case, you just have to go up to them and speak to them. If the musicians do not come back on stage, ask one of the ushers where to go to meet them backstage or in their dressing room.





A FEW READING AND LISTENING SUGGESTIONS

- Leigh SAUERWEIN: *Les vents*, a book on CD, Gallimard Jeunesse Musique.
- Marlène JOBERT: *Le joueur de flûte*, a traditional German tale, Éditions Atlas.
- Professeur GÉNIUS: *Mon album de la musique*, Québec-Amérique Jeunesse.

SOME INTERESTING WEBSITES

- Philippe Bolton, recorder-maker, explains in detail how the instrument works (in French): http://www.flute-a-bec.com/
- «Recorder Home Page», a wealth of information on the recorder: http://www.recorderhomepage.net/
- «Les instruments du monde», a virtual encyclopedia (in French): http://www.instrumentsdumonde.fr/
- «Métronimo», a variety of resources on music (in French): http://www.metronimo.com/fr/
- La flûte à bec et la peinture (in French): http://www.fluteabecmtl.ca/bin/Art/Peintures/indexe.html

LET'S TALK ABOUT THE CONCERT

Here are a few examples of questions to ask after the concert:

- How did you like the concert?
- What were your favourite moments?
- Did some scenes make you laugh? Which ones?

• If you could play any one of the recorders you heard at the concert, which would you choose? Why?

• Have you ever participated in a team challenge related to either sports or music? Name some of the qualities and abilities you needed for this challenge.



SOLUTIONS

© MYSTERY WORD SOLUTION: PERSEVERANCE

0	N	А	R	Р	0	S	D	Т	Р	Е
0	Т	S	D	0	0	В	U	0	Z	Е
Т	Е	R	Е	L	S	L	0	N	0	R
L	А	Е	Е	Y	S	S	0	Е	Е	W
Α	М	G	Р	М	А	R	0	N	Е	Т
V	Е	Ν	S	Р	В	А	С	Н	G	Е
М	N	Ι	S	Ι	R	Н	Т	U	0	М
E	0	F	Ι	С	F	U	Y	A	L	Р
D	Т	Ι	L	S	L	М	А	N	D	0
А	А	U	V	Е	U	Q	0	R	А	В
L	В	R	Е	А	Т	Н	L	Е	Т	Е
S	C	Е	R	R	Е	Т	S	Ι	W	Т

SEVEN ERRORS GAME SOLUTION:



