

Newsletter

Vancouver 'cello Club



Website: <http://vancouvercelloclub.org> • email: vancouvercelloclub@home.com

May 2001

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Message From The Presiden

Welcome to another newsletter. This issue reports on numerous Cello Club activities that have occurred this spring – starting with the CelloFest that was held in Banff this past February. This year's workshop in Banff was so successful that the Vancouver Cello Club Executive has decided to collaborate again with the Banff Centre to organize yet another CelloFest. Watch your Newsletter for details.

On the concert scene, this spring has been nothing less than thrilling. The Vancouver Symphony presented Lynn Harrell in a memorable performance of the Elgar concerto this past April. This was Mr. Harrell's first appearance with the VSO in about 10 years and his visit here was a wonderful reunion for cellists and concert goers alike.

Earlier this month, the Cello Club hosted a potluck dinner for Shauna Rolston who was in town to play John Tavener's "The Protecting Veil" with the VSO. Shauna found time in her busy schedule to give a 3-hour workshop and to adjudicate candidates for this year's Caroline E. Riley Scholarship. And to finish the month on a high note, Yo Yo Ma returns to play Shostakovich and Tchaikovsky with the Symphony on Wednesday evening, May 23rd. In just a few short weeks the Cello Club will hold another Play-In immediately following our Annual General Meeting. We extend an invitation to all members and friends to join us on Monday evening, June 11, at the Vancouver Academy for fun, food and fiddling. This is a great opportunity to meet colleagues and to support your club. The meeting starts at 6:30 pm - music starts at approximately 7:15 pm. Hope to see you there.

Lee Duckles, President

January 28th Play-In

Janet Steinburg

Christopher Catchpole

Cristian Markos

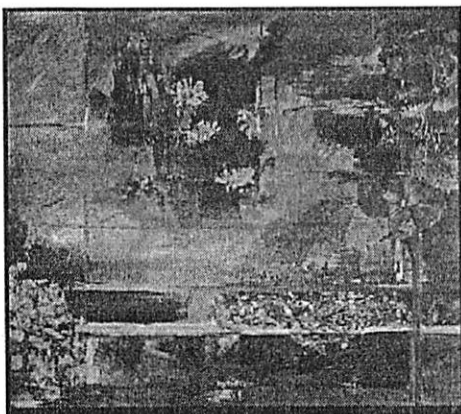
Annelies Reeves

Brian Funt



D a t e s T o P i n O n Y o u r F r i d g e

May 28	Adult Ensemble	7:30 pm	Rm. 22B - VAM
June 7/9	VYSO / VSO	8:00 pm	Orpheum
June 11	AGM / Cello Play-In #2	6:30 pm / 7:15 pm	Rm. 22B - VAM



BATHUB BLOSSOMS

SHARON NORMAN

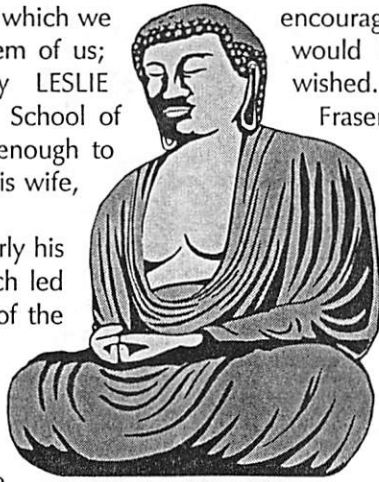
NEW WORKS FROM HER ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE TERM AT THE BANFF CENTRE FOR THE ARTS AND A COLLECTION OF ORIGINAL WORKS CELEBRATING THE GARDEN. TO SEPTEMBER. VAN DOP GALLERY & GARDEN - 421 RICHMOND STREET, NEW WESTMINSTER, BRITISH COLUMBIA

▲ Wisdom, Patience, Kindness ▲

these are these are three human qualities to which we all aspire — because the Cello requires them of us; they were possessed in abundance by LESLIE SUTTON, cello teacher at the Birmingham School of Music (U.K.), from whom I was fortunate enough to take lessons in the mid-1950s. Leslie and his wife, Edna, became our firm friends.

Later on, it was Leslie's influence, particularly his enthusiasm for cello ensemble playing, which led us to support the formation and operation of the Vancouver Cello Club.

Just before Christmas 2000 we heard that Leslie and Edna had both departed this life. In reply to an enquiry about donations, their daughter suggested that a fund to



encourage music studies among the youth of Canada would be what her father and mother would have wished. So a cheque is going to our Treasurer, Judith Fraser, to augment the Caroline E. Riley Scholarship Fund, the Graeme Ingram Fund and the Scholarships and Bursaries Fund, all of which provide financial help to young students of the cello. This will be not only in fond memory of two dear friends, but yet one more example of how the human, cellistic qualities of Wisdom, Patience and Kindness are passed along from one generation to the next, and from one part of the world to another.

Ethel and Ernest Collins

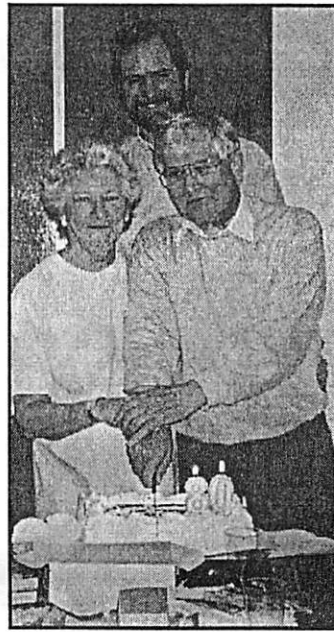
Ernest Collins

January 28

at the Play-In

to celebrate his

80th Birthday



Cutting The Cake!

*Judith Fraser
Treasurer*

*Ernest Collins
Retiring Secretary*

*Lee Duckles
President*

CHRISTOPHER WILD

2001 Winner of the Caroline E. Riley Scholarship – May 5th Shauna Rolston awarded the Caroline E. Riley Scholarship to Christopher Wild. This award is for a student leaving for the first time to study the cello at a university or conservatory in a different locale from their home. They must be a member of the Vancouver Cello Club, and a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant. Christopher, a student of Eric Wilson, will be attending the University of Michigan. We all wish him the best of luck.



Cellofest #4 In Banff February 16-18

with Mastercellist STEVEN DOANE

This year the 4th Cellofest was held in Banff February 16-18 with Steven Doane, Mastercellist from Eastman School of Music, Rochester, N.Y. Unfortunately for the Vancouver students, there was a major conflict with the Vancouver Academy of Music Orchestral Concert February 18th. However, 19 of us, including teachers **Judith Fraser**, **Audrey Nodwell**, **Kristl Armstrong** and **Catherine Carmack**, students **James Takazawa**, **Wesley Attawell**, and **Jonathan Lo** who played for Steven Doane, and other keen cellists **Eric Finley**, **Laura McKnight**, **Iris Graham**, **Tejas Mador**, **Eric Thewalt**, **Heather Brewster**, **Dawn Binnington**, **Decia Moss**, and **Mrs. Lo**, climbed aboard Air Canada bound for Calgary, where we all linked up with the contingent from Mount Royal College under the direction of **John Kadz**. Upon arrival we met with Calgary cellist/teacher **Morag Northey** and a number of her students. Friday evening we attended a wonderful concert in Rolston Hall where we heard Doane perform Trio in C major of Johannes Brahms and the Konzertwalzer Op. 31 by W. Fitzenhagan for 4 celli; Steven Doane (USA), Erik Williams (Canada), William Martina (Australia), Sarah Nelson (Scotland) (the latter 3 cellists were part of the Banff Centre Winter Program). Two days followed with masterclasses, Bach and/or study group classes and all teachers were kept busy. A number of us were thrilled to see what artist (and fellow cellist!) Sharon Norman had accomplished during her 2 month winter residency (editor note: see page 1 for Sharon's new show).



**STEVEN
DOANE**

IN THE KNOW...

Congratulations to **Wilson Ho**, winner in the Kiwanis Festival of the Judith Fraser Scholarship for the highest mark in the concert group classes (#876 D-F) and to Jonathan Lo winner of the concert group classes (#876 A-C) with the Helmut Hoebig Scholarship.

Jennifer Moersch has completed her Artist's Diploma at the S.K. Lee College (VAM) with a recital May 9th which included the Boccherini A Major Sonata, the 1st suite for Unacc. Cello by Bloch, the Barber Sonata and the Schuman Cello Concerto.

Sophie and Steven Reen welcomed another son in February to join Steven Jr. and Dominic.

April 7th **Catherine Carmack** celebrated 25 years of teaching with a multi-celli concert at Church in North Vancouver. Alumni came from as far as New York and San Francisco. The finale with students old and new, fellow colleagues and friends was most moving and a grand occasion.



Catherine Carmack, Mary Thomson, Andrew Chiu, Judy Fraser, Jennifer Moersch, Lindsay Burrell



Chris Wild, Ashton Lim, Jeremy So, Michael Unterman, Brian Chan, Jonathan Taylor and Brian Yoon with Shauna Rolston

Jeremy So, principal cellist of the Senior VYSO, performed The Saint Sæns A Minor cello concerto February 11 at Queen Elizabeth Playhouse. Jeremy will also be going to Scotland on tour with the VYSO in August where they will be the host orchestra for the Aberdeen Youth Festival.

May 5th the Vancouver Cello Club was pleased to have **Shauna Rolston** for an afternoon Bach masterclass and potluck supper at Spuraway Lodge in West Vancouver. Shauna was here for 2 performances with the VSO of John Taverner's "Protecting Veil" Friday evening and Sunday afternoon which allowed us to have the pleasure of her advice and help for six 14 year old cellists: **Ashton Lim, Jeremy So, Michael Unterman, Brian Chan, Jonathan Taylor and Brian Yoon.**

SHAUNA ROLSTON, CELLO

– The press has hailed Shauna Rolston as one of the leading cellists of this generation, captivating audiences worldwide since the age of 4. The youngest recipient of the Pro Musicis International Award, Ms. Rolston was named one of the Canadian Leaders of the Future by Macleans Magazine and recognized as a Young Artist to Watch by Musical America.

Since making a spectacular Town Hall, New York City debut at the age of 16, Ms. Rolston has performed regularly on four continents, appearing in recital and concerto engagements in

Toronto, Montreal, Vancouver, New York and Los Angeles, to name a few.

Following her formative studies at the renowned Banff Centre for the Arts, Shauna earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Art History from Yale University and a Master of Music Degree from the Yale School of Music. Shauna is also a passionate and devoted teacher. Much in demand as a guest master class instructor, Shauna is a professor of music at the University of Toronto, and a visiting artist at the Banff Centre for the Arts.

SOME ☀️ SUMMER ☀️ CAMPS

CAMP	DATES	CELLO FACULTY
VICTORIA SPRING ORCHESTRA CAMP (Beginner Orch./Advanced Orch.) info@victoriastringorchestracamp.com (250) 658-3333; 385-3324; 592-2485	July 16-21	Laura Backstrom
CHAMBER MUSIC CAMP (Age 12, Gr. 5 RCM or higher) info: Kathleen Hovey (604) 885-1066 8590 Redroofs Rd., Halfmoon Bay, BC V0N 1Y1	August 20-25	Nicholas Simons
EGMONT CHAMBER MUSIC CAMP (Intermediate/Advanced) (Strings and Piano) info: Jerold Gerbrecht, MD 1270 Chestnut, Vancouver, BC V6J 4R9 (604) 734-2301 Fax: (604) 731-1920 email: adm@corp.intergate.ca	July 25 - August 12	Paul Marleyn & Audrey Nodwell
OXFORD ARTS CENTRE (Advanced Musical Training) info: email: arts.orford@sympatico.ca Fax: (819) 843-7274	June 25 - August 18	Shauna Rolston, Marcel Saint-Cyr, Janos Starker, Paul Katz, Laurence Lesser
DOMAINE FORGET Strings, Chamber Music info: email: infor@domaineforget.com (418) 452-8111 Fax: (418) 452-3503	June 3 - August 24 July 15 - August 12	Andrés Díaz, Desmon Hoebig, Jhanne Perron, Philippe Muller, Brian Manker
VANCOUVER EARLY MUSIC (For Singers, Viol Players) (Encourage Preformed Groups) 1254 W. 7 th Avenue, Vancouver, BC V6H 1B6 (604) 732-1610 Fax: (604) 732-1602 email: staff@earlymusic.bc.ca	July 29 - August 4	Elizabeth Liddle, Nan Mackie

Amy Laing has completed her M.M. at the Cleveland Institute of Music with masterteacher Stephen Geber.

July 22 **Christopher Bazovsky** will be part of the program the VYSO is performing at the Orpheum for the Worldwide Mental Health Convention. The program includes Beethoven's Triple Concerto for Violin, Cello and Piano. Chris will also play "Pezzo Capriccioso" by Tchaikovsky. Currently studying at North Texas University, Chris is a pupil of **Eugene Osadchy** and was last year's Caroline E. Riley Scholarship winner.

Next season, Vancouver Symphony Orchestra cellist **Zoltan Rosznyi** will be heard in recital October 26th, 7:30 pm at the Vancouver Academy of Music, 1270 Chestnut sponsored by the Vancouver Cello Club Young Performers and the Vancouver Academy of Music.

April 19th and 20th 2002 **Steven Isserlis** will perform the Haydn C Major Cello Concerto with the VSO at the Orpheum.

May 5, 2002, at the Vancouver Playhouse, Vancouver Playhouse, Vancouver Recital Society will present **Alisa Weilerstein**, cello in recital. This talented young 19 year old debuted at Carnegie Hall at age 15.

CELLO HAPPENINGS

The **Leonard Rose International Cello Competition** and the **Sixth American Cello Congress** will take place May 24 thru June 2. These events will be hosted at the University of Maryland.

Held every four years, the Leonard Rose competition was inaugurated in July 1993, when Alban Gerhardt took the top award. A distinguished international jury will preside over a four-stage procedure.

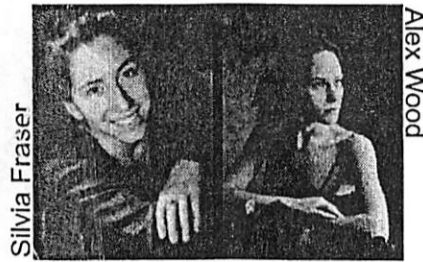
University of Maryland Professor Evelyn Eising will chair the jury. Other members of the jury are Takayori Atsume, Colin Carr, Aurora Natola-Ginastera, Arto Noras, Siegfried Palm and Eleonore Schoenfeld.

The Sixth American Cello Congress will feature workshops, exhibitions, master classes, performances, and other events of interest to cellists at all levels. The theme is the cello in chamber music and orchestral settings. Steven Kates will be honored as the Congress President. Ron Leonard will conduct cello ensembles.

The Gregor Piatigorsky Seminar for Cellists will take place June 4-10 at the USC Thornton School of Music. This year's faculty will consist of Ralph Kershbaum, Boris Pergamenschikow and Tsuyoshi Tsutsumi. For information, contact eschoen@usc.edu

Joel Aird will be attending Orford Arts Centre this Summer when Janos Starker and Paul Katz are there.

FRENCH CHAMBER MUSIC (Royal College of Music)



Pianist Silvia Fraser (JF) is joined by Alex Wood (JF, violin), Sarah Andrew (JF, bassoon), Min Park (Flute) & Katherine Wood (Cello) for an evening of Chamber Music.

Poulenc: Flute Sonata

Debussy: Cello Sonata

Debussy: Violin Sonata

Poulenc: Trio for oboe, bassoon and piano

NEWS FROM THE KIWANIS FESTIVAL (Vancouver)

Congratulations to **Jonathan Lo** who won the Helmut Hoebig Memorial Scholarship (Cello Concert Group - Class 876A-C) and **Wilson Ho**, winner of the Judith Fraser Scholarship (Cello Concert Group - Class 876D-F) at the recent Kiwanis Music Festival. The Ella's of Langley Scholarship for the most outstanding junior cellist was awarded to **Brian Chan** and **Michelle Cho** won the Ward Music Ltd. Scholarship for the highest mark in the Cello Concerto Class 16 years and under. **Jonathan Lo** will represent Vancouver Kiwanis Junior Strings at the Provincial BC Festival of the Arts May 29 - June 3 in Fort St. John.

On February 28, at the time of the earthquake in Seattle, **Janos Starker** was giving a masterclass in the recital auditorium at Benaroya Hall. When the quake began, everyone moved into the Symphony Hall, on the theory that its rubber sheathing would offer more protection. (Symphony Hall is encased in rubber to keep out the noise of underground trains.) After the quake, the class resumed back in their original quarters. The next evening, Mr. Starker performed on schedule with the Seattle Symphony.

After first curtailing his travel commitments with the Guarneri String Quartet, **David Soyer** recently announced his intention to retire from the quartet at the end of the current season. His replacement - the first personnel change in the quartet's 37-year history - will be Soyer's protégé, **Peter Wiley**. Mr. Soyer will be with the quartet for their final public rehearsal this season at the University of Maryland on Tuesday, April 17.

Call 301-405-7847 a day or two in advance to confirm the schedule or for directions to the Gildenhorn Recital Hall.

NEW BOOKS

- ▶ **21st Century Cellists** - conversations with Yo Yo Ma, Hai-ye Ni, David Finkel, Laurence Lesser, etc. on art and craft. U.S. \$14.95.
- ▶ **A Cellist's Life** by Colin Hampton, U.S. \$12.95



- ▶ **Violin Virtuosos** - includes profiles of **Joshua Bell, Kyung-Wha Chung, Hilary Hahn, Mark Kaplan, Viktoria Mullova, etc.**, U.S. \$12.95

- ▶ **Backstage Books**, String Letter Publishing, (800) 637-2852, fax: (414) 774-3259, online: www.stringletter.com

String Letter Publishing also publishes "Strings", an excellent magazine for all string players with plenty of information for every facet of music. P.O. Box 469020, Escondido, California 92046-9570.

www.celloheaven.com

If you haven't run across this website yet, you might want to give it a gander: www.celloheaven.com. Included in this site: biographies of important cellists; links to other cello oriented sites (national and international cello societies, ASTA, music museums, sites concerning acoustics, to name a few); lists of cello ensemble music; a link to free sheet music offered by the VancouverCello Club; lessons for beginners; auction price information; a schools directory; a music teacher search engine that lists thousands of teachers; search engines for the Cello Heaven site as well as the Internet Cello Society Archives and Message Boards. The site also includes a 'Silly Links' which includes a list of cello jokes - you already know many of them, no doubt!

If your interest lies more in the vernacular music category, you might want to check out the Mel Bay publication **Crossing to Scotland**, celtic music for cello arranged by Abby Newton. Ms. Newton is a classically trained cellist who has adapted her personal playing to the relaxed lilting feel of Scottish music. The CD that accompanies the collection is lovely, and includes fiddle, celtic harp, piano, guitar, accordion and upright bass. The music uses only up to 4th position and would be particularly good for students and amateurs who want to explore this genre.

A Few Words About Etudes and Exercises

by Michael Haber, Head of Cello Faculty at University of Ohio at Akron

"To put it plainly, the traditional techniques used for building a fine command of a string instrument work. These techniques are scales in a variety of fingerings and bowings, in thirds, sixths, octaves and arpeggios, finger and trill exercises in all positions, shifting exercises, bowing exercises, etudes and so on.

These activities should play a significant role in your daily work. They are our way of toning and developing the physical skills required for excellent cello playing. Neglecting them results in a variety of weaknesses and technical failings which remain unsolved, causing tremendous frustration. If you overdo and spend an inordinate amount of time on these kinds of materials, you can strain yourself, perhaps severely hurt yourself, and also risk mistaking means for ends. It is an admirable achievement to play Popper and Piatti etudes on a high level, but these pieces are not goals in and of themselves.

You need to organize a way of doing all these things every day. What should be done, and how much should be done, is different for every person and depends on the level of playing and of physical preparation. I cannot make a formula which will be useful but I will say that, eventually, 30-40% of your practise time should be spent on these instrumental building activities. Let me warn you, however, in case you are working on your own, that all finger and trill exercises should be done in moderation. 15 minutes a day is plenty, less than that will do if you are out of shape or just beginning to build some of these skills. Here is some information which will help you organize this kind of work in a general way. First, a list of some of the etude and exercise books which I find useful. Of course, there are there are others, and other good ones, and I have no objection to working from other books."





Duport	21 Etudes
Lee	Meloic Studies, book 1
Franchomme	12 Caprices, Op. 7 12 Etdudes, Op. 35
Popper	40 Etudes, Op. 73 10 Etudes, Op. 76
Piatti	12 Caprices, Op. 25
Servais	6 Caprices, Op. 11 and some of the exercise books
Janos Starker	An Organized Method of String Playing
Fritz Magg	Cello Exercises
Aldo Pais	La Tecnica del Violoncello
Cossmann	Concert Studies; Studies for Developing Agility, Strength of Fingers, and Purity of Intonation



Here are some suggestions for using the etude books to work on problems of special interest to you:


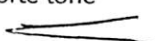
- Lyrical Etudes**
Lee #1-11, 13, 16, 19-21
Duport #8, 9, 12, 14, 16
Franchomme Etude #11
Piatto #2
Servais #4
- Etudes for Spicatto**
Popper Op. 73 #1, 6, 19
Lee #12
Servais #2
Duport #10
- Etudes for Sautillé also short pieces for Sautillé**
Lee #18
Popper #27
Goltermann Etude Caprice
Van Goens Scherzo
Popper Dance of the Elves
Davidoff At the Fountain
- Etudes for Octaves**
Popper #13, 20, 38
Piatti #3
Popper Op. 76 #5
- Etudes for Special Bowings, String Crossings, etc.**
Duport #4, 5, 7, 10, 20
Popper Op. 73 #5, 11, 25
Lee #8, 14
Piatti #1, 5, 7
Franchomme Caprice #5, 12
Franchomme Etude #12
- Etudes for Double Stops**
Duport #1, 14, 16, 9
Franchomme Etude #1, 4
Popper #34
- Some Particularly Nasty Etudes in Thumb Position**
Popper Op. 73 #4, 8, 12, 18, 28, 33
Piatti #10
Servais #1
- Etudes in 3rds and 6ths**
Popper Op. 73 #9, 17, 29
Franchomme Etdude #4
- Etudes for Staccato**
Popper Op. 73 #14, 32
Piatti #12
- Lesser Known Concertos With Instrumental Challenges**
Goltermann, Concerto #1 in A Minor
Goltermann, Concerto #3 in B Minor
Davidoff, Concerto #1 in B Minor

Practice Outline – Zara Nelsova

- 7 Minutes 1) 15 min. slow bows – use a metronome – not too slow at the beginning – if it gets stuck, bow is NOT moving at an even pace
- i) fortissimo
 - ii) 
 - iii) 
- for arm control development

- 20 Minutes 2) 40 min. any scale major and relative minor
- i) full bow with full sound; no vibrato – one note to a bow (make sure all hair has contact, flat on the string)
 - ii) 4 slurred – use a whole bow divided equally in 4
 - iii) 8 slurred
 - iv) any other variations, i.e. 3rds, 6ths, 8's
- chromatic – check half tones by playing with next open string, i.e. 2 strings together - only exception to the rule of Q across 2 strings, to allow one to play open D.
- arpeggios – 3 slurred - finish with 4th octave 1, 3, 4 for exercise for 4th finger.
- spiccato scale – 5 x without stopping to show technical problems, i.e.
- i) if shifts are too slow especially DOWN
 - ii) intonation
 - iii) uneven spiccato
- Q positive exercises – Grutzmacher Daily Exercises - begin slowly
- octave passages

IT IS NOT THE NUMBER OF EXERCISES YOU DO, IT IS WHAT YOU DO WITH THEM.

- 10 Minutes 3) 20 min. bow arm spiccato Hugo Becker daily exercises, i.e.
- 1 4 4 1 (E C) 1 3 3 1 (E B) 1 2 2 1 (E B^b) in patterns – closer to the bridge for more sound
- secret of spiccato = bow with string must have equal distance on both strokes
 = keep bow in one spot or space
 = find bow balance point
 = watch bow, not the arm
 = wrist must NOT be high - keep it flat
- leave things in a natural position
- staccato - slow practice = squeeze fingers, release, let the bow travel
- use G+ (one octave) G () A-G (VVVVVV) quick practice - same finger movement but little release and bow does not travel - everything is connected - do not do quickly until slow staccato is controlled
- 5 Minutes 4) 10 min. trills - start on difficult C string - finger action on tip - measure the trills using 12, 13, 23, 24, 34
- 10-15 Minutes 5) 20-30 min. Etudes - practice with full forte tone
 - increase volume  into Q position
- more sound produced in upper positions produces more control of L.H.
 improve connection between mind and direction of arm/fingers

THERE ARE NO SHORTCUTS. TECHNIQUE MUST BE PRACTICED SLOWLY & CAREFULLY WITH LOVE AND DEVOTION.

- 6) 1.5 - 2 hours. GOODIES - come last, always.
- i) Bach movement - do one page well rather than scramble through a movement.

DO NOT PLAY UP TO SPEED UNTIL YOU ARE READY OR YOU WILL SPOIL IT.

- ii) concerto or grand sonata or Italian sonata.

**A SERIOUS STUDENT OF OVER 12 YEARS SHOULD BE DOING 3 HOURS DAILY PRACTICE
 THIS OUTLINE CAN BE SCALED DOWN PROPORTIONATELY TO YOUR PRACTICE TIME.**

- i.e. 1 hour practice - cut by 1/3
- 1.5 hours' practice - cut by 1/2

VIBRATO - even vib. needs 2 fingers down - uses finger movement, some wrist and arm - firm pressure and thumb on or under or off the neck - FLAT.