

On Saturday, March 3, in Vancouver, BC, recorder players had the special treat of a daylong workshop with two members of Flûte Alors! Many thanks to the ARS for their grant towards the expense of presenting the workshop. Most of us arrived energized and inspired by their Bach 'n' Jazz concert the previous evening. Although apparently out of McGill University for only a handful of years they played with fabulous intonation and timing, impressive speed and ensemble cohesion, and used a few articulations some of us had not heard before.

Our workshop teachers were Caroline Tremblay and Alexa Raine-Wright and we students self-divided into a room of advanced players and another of intermediate. Each group had classes on breathing/intonation and articulation in the morning, followed by two periods of repertory after a catered lunch. Breathing class started with many of the experiential exercises most of us have practiced from manuals such as Walter van Hauwe's and progressed to anticipating the perfect breath speed for each note. We tested our understanding playing simple exercises with rising and falling passages and leaps. It was in the articulation class that this old player learned some new tricks. Vancouver has been without regular teachers for a while so getting our tongues out of their ruts seemed very valuable! We learned how to use Dah, Deh or Dee for low, middle and high registers and how to end our notes with Den, Ded or Det for different degrees of staccato and legato. And finally, this old tongue, and a few others, finally had some success with DGDG double-tonguing. Perhaps there's hope for Telemann and Vivaldi allegro passagework after all!

Our afternoon repertory classes offered fine opportunities to apply our new techniques. My group warmed up again with *A Viol Round* of Purcell and a *Lamento di Tristana* and *La Rotta* from the 14<sup>th</sup> Century. We moved on to a sprightly Telemann *Concerto No. 1 TWV 40:201* and a very chromatic Bach *A minor Fantasy*. The highlight for this player was a Mathias Maute *Ricercar* in which we learned to play controlled glissandi of intervals up to an octave by rolling the fingers. I look forward to hearing the fruition of our workshop in the British Columbia Recorder Society's Spring Showcase!

Anthony Morgan