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Exploring Flute Etudes

diligent practice for easier performance

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Etude 1

I like to make things more challenging when I am practicing, so that performing becomes easier. Harmonics are a great way to challenge your airspeed, connection, and flexibility in this etude. Notice how much air speed and support are required to play each leap and register correctly. At first, play it slower to really achieve a smooth connection between the notes.

1. Play with harmonic fingerings
2. Play while singing the pitches (transpose as necessary)
3. Play with flutter tongue (preferably fluttering tongue rather than throat)
4. Play as written emulating air flow from steps 1, 2, and 3
5. Transpose half and whole step up (repeat all steps above)

The image shows three staves of musical notation for flute, labeled 1, 2, and 3. Each staff is in treble clef and common time (indicated by a '9' over the '8'). Staff 1 starts with a measure of eighth-note pairs followed by a measure of eighth-note pairs with a fermata. Staff 2 starts with a measure of eighth-note pairs followed by a measure of eighth-note pairs with a fermata. Staff 3 starts with a measure of eighth-note pairs followed by a measure of eighth-note pairs with a fermata. Each staff concludes with a measure of eighth-note pairs followed by a measure of eighth-note pairs with a fermata. The notation includes various fingerings (circles with dots) and dynamic markings (diamonds). The first two staves end with a fermata, while the third staff ends with a repeat sign and a '1'' above it, indicating a repeat of the previous section.

7 2''

9 4 1'''

11 2'''

13 4' 1'''

15 2'''

17 4'' 4'''