

Building Blocks of Technical Development:

The Art of Left Hand Structure, Mobility, Flexibility, Development, Artistic Nuance

Structure:

Hand Shape

- Placement of finger angles in tetrachord positioning to the string
- Relationship, positioning and tension of thumb in supporting fingers
- Relationship of arm angles to the usage of fingers

Hand Placement in Relation to Individual Strings

Retaining:

- Hand shape
- Finger placement and contact
- Articulation
- Finger motion and action

Structure in Positions

- Accurate and automatic expertise within the natural grid-like division of the instrument into full positions, *and their enharmonically spelled half-positions*
- Retaining hand, arm and string-crossing relationships *within all positions*.

Mobility & Flexibility:

Finger Motions

- Lifting/falling
- Sideways action
- Shapes in extension and contraction
- Usage of left arm placement and motion in relation to crossing strings from g to e
- Usage of thumb and left side of first finger as contact points in relation to crossing strings

Development:

Finger Articulation

- Finger/thumb release
- Speed
- Height
- Angle

Intonation

- Intervallic
- Harmonic
- Melodic
- In relation to instrument; i.e. open strings, overtones

Shifting

- Block Shifting
- Finger contact, angle ,speed
- Intervalic relationships and security

- Development of the gradual diminution of note spacing playing upwards on the fingerboard. Expansion in reverse.

- Bow tension, control, speed
- Thumb stability, positioning and preparation
- Leading finger technic
- Extending and contracting

Artistic Nuance:

Vibrato

- Speeds
- Usages
- Colors
- Pressures with dynamics
- Differentiation

Left hand/finger accentuation

The Art of the Bow

- **Detaché:** slurring variations, in 5 parts of the bow, bow division
- **Martelé:** variations, placement, bow division
- **String Crossings:** in all 5 parts of the bow, utilizing all bow strokes and articulation
- **Collé:** controlling string entrances, with or without articulation, from the air, from the string, including bow division
- **Legato:** half bow, full bow, bow changes at tip and frog, rhythmic bow divisions
- **Sautillé**
- **Spiccato**
- **Ricochet**
- **Tremolo**
- **Staccato:** in the string, utilizing martelé/tremolo
- **Flying Staccato:** above the frog (using combination of collé and sautillé), in the upper half (using wrist with staccato action)

- **Portato**
 - **Legato**
 - **Chords:** 3-note, 4-note, down-bow and up-bow, starting at frog and tip, both short and longer– holding different notes in the chord, broken and rolled chords
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