

MUSIC CLUE



Clue Investigation for Band Directors

Multi-Tasking is a Myth

Research indicates:

- brain can only focus on one thing at a time¹
- multitasking reduces efficiency and performance¹
- up to 40% of productivity is lost due to *task-switching*¹
- multitasking can actually lower your IQ²

1. Stanford University
2. University of London

Doing it all at once gets nothing done.

This session will lead us to become a musical detective and identify ensemble “mysteries” and learn rehearsal tips for solving common performance errors.

CLUE Steps

What is the ‘mystery’?	tone, rhythm, balance, tempo, intonation, musicality, etc.
Who did it?	brass, woodwinds, percussion, 2nd trumpets, alto saxophones, etc.
Where did it happen?	rehearsal letter D, measures 62-78, the trio, the recapitulation, etc.
Tool of choice?	poor equipment, ignoring musical vocabulary, didn’t practice part, etc.
How to solve it?	ensemble sensitivity, practical warm-ups, characteristic tone, etc.

Law of Sound (Ed Lisk -- “the basic law of sound” (Lisk, 1987, p. 62)

If you hear yourself above all others, 1 of 3 things is happening:

You are _____ or _____. Make the necessary adjustment. This initiates an auditory reaction to **Balance**. If you still hear yourself and you made the adjustment in #1, then:

You are playing with poor _____. Make the necessary adjustment (embouchure, breath support, posture, reed, etc.) This initiates an auditory reaction to **Blend** and a physical reaction to embouchure and breath support. If you still hear yourself and you made the adjustment in #1 and #2, then:

You are playing out of _____. Make the necessary adjustment by extending or shortening the length of your instrument. This initiates an auditory reaction to **“Beatless Tuning”**

Thank you Alberta Band Association

Circle of
Acceptance

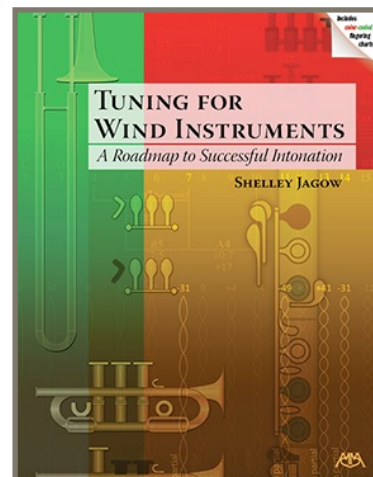


Understanding Intonation

- Beatless tuning
- Eye & Ear Training
- Intonation Tendencies
- Just vs. Equal Tempered Tuning

Resources:

- ◆ ***Tuning for Wind Instruments: A Roadmap to Successful Intonation*** (Shelley Jagow). Meredith Music Publications.
- ◆ download colored pdfs at www.halleonard.com (search “Jagow”)
- ◆ **App**



Tone Quality

- Breathing Exercises
- Stretching Exercises
- Activity: Tonal Toss
- Activity: Artists to Model
- Mouthpiece Buzzing - Brass
- Mouthpiece Quality - Woodwinds
- Reed Quality

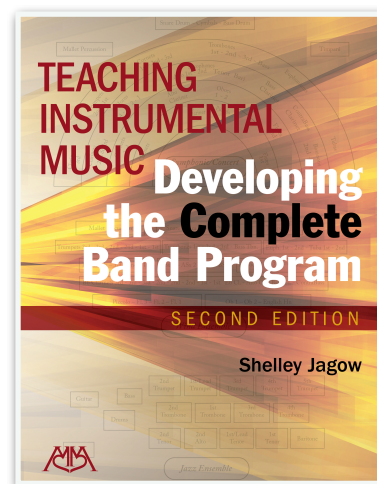
Rhythm & Pulse

- Externalize pulse in groups: melody, counter-melody, accompaniment
- try pulsing rests vs. melody
- combine linear rhythms to increase understanding and accuracy
- re-beam patterns
- vocalize words that fit with the rhythm
- types of releases: pulse, fermata (caesura, breath, sustained/traveling), score-order

Resources:

- ◆ ***Developing the Complete Band Program, 2nd ed.*** (Shelley Jagow). Meredith Music Publications.
- ◆ ***Basics in Rhythm*** (Garwood Whaley). Meredith Music Publications.
- ◆ ***Teaching Healthy Musicianship*** (Nancy Taylor). Oxford University Press.

Do. Or Do Not.
There is No Try. (Yoda)



Practicing with Purpose
by David Kish features
50 practice techniques.
(Meredith Music Publications)

40 Key Concepts for Musical Interpretation

Resources:

- ◆ pp. 141-142 in ***Developing the Complete Band Program*** (Shelley Jagow). Meredith Music Publications.