

INTERNATIONAL SUZUKI ASSOCIATION



Dear Suzuki flute colleagues,

The International Suzuki Association Flute Committee has had its fourth meeting in Boulder, Colorado on the 7th and 8th of October 2016. The representatives of the regions of the SAA, PPSA, ESA would like to share the results of our meeting with you.

Mr. Takahashi sadly could not attend this time and had sent his apologies.

Mr. Takahashi also announced he has retired as TERI Flute representative. The ISA board has approved the appointment of Mr Takeaki Miyamae as TERI representative to the position of interim member of the ISA Flute Committee without voting rights. At such time as the residency requirement is fulfilled he will be considered a member of the committee with full voting rights.

This year the committee's main focus was to finalize the process of revising Book 1, including the choice of recording artists. Teacher trainers in ESA and SAA regions, and trainers and senior experienced teachers in PPSA and TERI regions were invited to participate in the survey. We committee members are very thankful that 80 % of these teachers took their time to listen to the artists and responded to this survey. We received also extra information and suggestions. All your suggestions and comments are very valid, are most appreciated and will be taken into consideration. From the response we now have flautist Lorna McGhee who received the majority of the votes as top choice. Contacts with the artist and Alfred publishing company have been established. Lorna has accepted and recording of Volume 1 is scheduled for May 2017.

The revision of book 1 is completed and has been sent to Alfred this Fall.

Final adjustments were made to this edition to better reflect the required musical intentions, and to avoid misunderstandings. Minimum and maximum speeds for the repertoire were established as guidance for the recording artist. In 2015 we decided to have book and CD sold as package. A new idea now is to include the piano accompaniment on the CD. CDs will thus contain the complete performance of the piece, followed by the accompaniment only (preferably starting with an introduction instead of clicks) .

As mentioned in our previous statement, no matter what may happen in due course with availability of additional recordings, the committee members wish the current recordings of Book 1 and 2 to continue to be available for all Suzuki flute teachers and students.

In 2015 the ISA Flute Committee suggested the possibility of a handbook of Mr. Takahashi's excellent exercises and articles concerning flute technique and tone development. This handbook will include Mr. Takahashi's

- Diagrams and descriptive text
- Tone exercises
- Technical exercises
- Excerpts
- Arrangements and harmony parts of the flute repertoire

- Articles
- Repertoire pieces which are no longer in the current Suzuki Flute School editions

If you have any of these items which might be interesting for this handbook, please do submit these to our committee.

We will proceed to work our way through the repertoire and have made good progress with Book 2.

The issue of Baroque editions and performance practice has been of concern to many of our teachers for a very long time. We recognize the importance of this issue to teachers and students. The committee recommends that teachers refer to Urtext editions, particularly for the long stretch of 18th century repertoire that is currently found in from books 4-6. In addition, we would like to compile and share a list of recommended reference recordings of this repertoire while the committee works towards the proper revision of those books. All your articles, exercises, ideas are very welcome.

Please do feel free to share this information with your colleagues and trainees. We are all committed to furthering the growth of Suzuki Flute and of the respect with which it is regarded in the worldwide musical community.

With our very best wishes,

Members of the ISA Flute Committee

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