Double Reed
Posted by AnneMegan - 04 Jan 2013 14:40

I'm just starting out with this system- it's not so easy! I'm ready to share with anyone who's interested.

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Double Reed
Posted by xuzme720 - 04 Jan 2013 18:06

Double reed...??? I played trombone and a tiny little bit on the guitar...not sure I'm familiar with double reeds.

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Double Reed
Posted by ApexGS - 05 Jan 2013 01:08

Not much of an oboe guy, xume720?

Okay back on topic... I'm not familiar either, anyone want to give a primer for the rest of us?

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Double Reed
Posted by DannyBoy2k - 05 Jan 2013 07:45

Not sure what you guys are asking about. I believe this section is for those who use reed knives to make their own double reeds for their instruments - oboes, bassoons, etc. A double reed is a reed having two blades to it, unlike reeds for say a clarinet or saxophone where the reed is a single blade.

EDIT: If what I said above is the case, it might make sense to rename this forum to "Reed Knives" or "Reed Knives - Double Reed Makers" or the like.

~Dan

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Double Reed

Posted by leomitch - 05 Jan 2013 08:58

Just to go a bit further,reeds are made from high quality, straight grained cane. Double reeds are as the name indicates, two reeds shaped to fit symmetrically face to face and the ends fastened tightly so the two become one reed so to speak.

Professional and enthusiasts like to make their own reeds from blanks they can buy and shape them to their own specs. Double reed players are very fussy about their reeds because small difference in construction can have a great effect on the sound and on the way the musician plays. The reeds can be adjusted by cutting and thinning so as to customize them for the individual player. The process requires a very sharp tool and a great deal of skill and patience, so the WEPS will have an important role to play in the customizing of these reeds...not just double but also single reeds...although clarinet and sax reeds are cheap and readily available, still many players shave and clip their reeds to better suit them. I play the clarinet but not well enough to fuss over my reeds! LOL!

So the double reeds include the oboes, the bassoons, English horns and let us not forget the bagpipes.

Just for clarification, my two cents worth.

Cheers

Leo

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Double Reed

Posted by leomitch - 05 Jan 2013 09:01

DannyBoy2k wrote:

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~Dan

I agree with Dan's suggestion regarding renaming this section of the Forum. Good point Dan!

Leo

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Double Reed
Posted by leomitch - 05 Jan 2013 09:12

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Whoops! Hmmm! Sorry Clay, I tried starting a new title,"DOuble Reeds and the WEPS' but I am not sure how to get the posts that are already up over to it. It eludes me. Can you help? Or Curtis? Or Mark? My old brain doesn't see how to do it! Drat!

Leo

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Double Reed
Posted by ApexGS - 05 Jan 2013 14:12

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Leo, good point about single reeds being inexpensive and readily available. I spent quite a few years in the musical arts (sax player here!) but never really fussed over reeds beyond picking a particular brand and breaking them in. I hadn't heard of folks making their own until just now, but that's definitely cool!

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Double Reed
Posted by Geocyclist - 05 Jan 2013 15:10

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Both single reed and double reed players use them. Whether single or double reed, the reed must be symmetrical. The knife is used to shave very small amounts of the reed to even it up side to side as well as to reduce thickness of the reed as needed. The amount of material removed could be done with 100 grit sandpaper in a few seconds. The knife if is more precise and leaves a smoother finish. It is like whittling dust.

I played clarinet and every reed required very minor adjustments.

The reed knife I had was a very thick (1/4 ") single bevel. About 3" long or so. I had also seen less expensive thin, concave, razor like knives.

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Double Reed
Posted by cbwx34 - 05 Jan 2013 15:11

DannyBoy2k wrote:

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~Dan

Good catch... I sent the request to Clay to make this section "Reed Knives". At least now we know what a double reed is! 🙂

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