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Motivational Tips and Tricks

In 2007, I attended a Music Teachers Association Summer Conference where I had a wonderful networking opportunity and chance to gain ideas from many of the State's best music teachers.

One of our speakers "Ruth Bonetti" is a professional public speaker, AMEB examiner and woodwind teacher. Her speaking is based around performance, confidence, speaking and general motivation and she has some wonderful books available to help with those nerves and confidence issues prior to performing. She regularly sends emails to those on a mailing list for motivational tips. If you are interested in being on her free mailing list, you will find the details at: www.ruthbonetti.com

These ideas can help you learn to relax prior to performance, or just give you the leading edge over someone else who may also be suffering from nerves.

One such statement I picked up (and seems very obvious now) is: "Practice what you don't know, not what you do know". Now this seems obvious to us, but when you think about it, it is always more fun to practice what sounds good and is finished, than it is to practice the 4 bars in the middle of the song that messes the flow up. Why not spend some decent time practicing the 4 bars that are breaking the song up and stopping it from being completed, then work it back into the known part. You will find you have a completed song far quicker than sight reading the same problem spot every time.

Try it and see how you go. I think you will be very surprised at how much faster you progress with your music if you stop procrastinating over these parts of the music.