

As instrumentalists, our goal is to be able to share with others the fruits of our labour...a performance.

If we allow poor preparation, inadequate knowledge or loss of control (musical or mental) to detract from our performance standard, and accept that as normal, then we are short-changing ourselves and our audiences.

We can retain the control and skills displayed in the privacy of our practice rooms and in doing so increase the level of both performance and enjoyment.

REMEMBER: - ALL ROADS LEAD TO PERFORMANCE, A **MUSICAL** ACTIVITY.

SUCCESS MEANS BEING ABLE TO PRODUCE IN PUBLIC WHAT YOU HAVE PRACTICED IN PRIVATE (**whatever your standard**)

THIS IS OFTEN CALLED 'ACHIEVING OR REALISING YOUR POTENTIAL'. TO ME, THE ACHIEVEMENT OF POTENTIAL HAS MORE TO DO WITH MAXIMISING POTENTIAL, WHICH INVOLVES 'BEING THE BEST THAT YOU POSSIBLY CAN'.

See yourself as a winner. Hear the sounds that you wish to make....first in your head, and then with work, turn the sounds into reality.

An idea or a concept of the end product (musical output...sound etc) is essential if we are to progress from merely making noise, to making musical sounds.

Put yourself in the audience's seat; is the sound you are producing the one you would be happy to listen to?

These are just starting points to stimulate your brain. Playing a musical instrument is not just about the technical aspects of performance, but much, much more.

Be single minded in your pursuit of excellence. Irrespective of 'natural ability', we all have the capability to succeed.

All we need is, time, patience, targets and a methodical way to achieve realistic goals.