

MAXIM JACOBSEN

THE MASTERY OF VIOLIN PLAYING

Mr. Jacobsen believes that in order to develop a sound technique, the method of playing must be built on the following four points:

- (1) The left shoulder muscle and chin must be developed in order to hold the instrument with ease.
- (2) The forearm and wrist muscles must become insensible to fatigue.
- (3) The breath must be controlled in order to regulate the nervous system.
- (4) The fingers and the ear must be trained simultaneously to obtain perfect intonation.

The method of instruction presented by Mr. Jacobsen is complementary to any chosen school of violin teaching. In order to obtain the necessary technique required for virtuoso playing it is essential that the basic training described here should be fully mastered. In many cases much time is wasted when, owing to lack of preparation and development, pupils endeavour in vain to imitate the movements of the teacher. With a basic physical training, mind, muscle, and respiration are all co-ordinated, giving exact synchronisation and complete control.

Unless breath control is planned by exercises in various postures, oxygen deficiencies occur and will result in perspiration, local fatigue and lack of memory. The body must be regarded as a community of members directed by the brain. Orders are sent by the brain to the various parts of the body—through the shoulder, upper arm, forearm, and wrist to the finger-tips. Then by moulding the muscles to the violin's demands, the instrument can eventually become an extension of the musician's body in much the same way that an artificial limb can become part of its owner.

VOLUME I

In Volume I the problems of holding the violin and bow, left hand technique, intonation, bowing technique and shifting are discussed. These points are illustrated with many photographs, music exercises and studies.

Price 10s. 6d. net

VOLUME II

In Volume II a completely new approach to vibrato is explained, the further study of shifting developed, and intonation and advanced bowing exercises described.

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