



**FACULTY OF MUSIC
UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA**

**MUF655
RESEARCH PROJECT**

**ACHIEVING ROUNDED FLUTE TONES IN LOWER REGISTER:
“APRÈS UN RÊVE” BY GABRIEL FAURÉ**

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ABSTRACT

Having a beautiful tone for any instrument is very important. Some musician might think that the low registers may not be as important as the high registers because of the low sound which cannot be heard clearly by the audience. Even though it may not be important to non-musicians, but the low registers still need to be played with a beautiful, clear and warm sound. In achieving great tones for the lower registers, there are many techniques that can solve the problem and also much practice needed in order to achieve them. These techniques and exercises can be used by all level of students. This research is mainly based on the performance by Emmanuel Pahud on the piece *Après un Rêve* by Gabriel Fauré. The objectives that is set for this research are “To study the techniques on how to improve the tone for lower register” and “To determine how Emmanuel Pahud produced a great tone for the lower registers in the piece *Après un Rêve*. The method used in this research is qualitative method. Since this research is conducted during the pandemic, there will be no interview with the person that is involve with this topic. The data collected for this research is by observing the style of the performer’s playing aurally and also by using the ProQuest or Google Scholar to gather more important notes. There are many useful techniques and exercises that has been discovered. The most important thing starts with the basic which is the correct placement of the embouchure and also the balance in blowing the air into the flute. There are also many exercises to practice in order to improve the low registers. The significance of this research will benefit the flutists on any level of learning.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
AUTHOR'S DECLARATION	ii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	iii
ABSTRACT	iv
TABLE OF CONTENTS	v
CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION	
1.1 Background	1-2
1.2 Problem Statement	3
1.3 Objectives	4
1.4 Research Questions	4
1.5 Significance of Study / Limitations	4
CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW	
2.1 Flute Tones in Lower Register	5-7
2.2 Lower Register Practices	8-9
2.3 Gabriel Fauré	10-11
2.4 Après Un Rêve	12
2.5 Emmanuel Pahud	13
CHAPTER 3: METHODOLOGY	
3.1 Qualitative Method	14
3.2 Research Design	15
3.3 Data Acquisition	16
3.4 Score to be Analysed	17
3.5 Performance to be Analysed	18
CHAPTER 4: FINDINGS	
4.1 Introduction	19
4.2 Findings	
4.2.1 Section A: Genre and Structure	20
4.2.2 Section B: Flute Tones in Lower Register	21
4.2.3 Section C: Lower Register Techniques	22
4.3 Discussion	23
4.4 Performance to be Analysed	24
CHAPTER 5: RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSION	
5.1 Introduction	25
5.2 Recommendations	26
5.3 Conclusion	27
REFERENCES	28-30

CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Flute is one of the oldest musical instruments and is the first wind instrument that has at least been used since the Stone Age. In the Middle Ages and Renaissance period, there is no proof that transverse flutes existed. In the sixteenth century, there are flute consorts that consist of three transverse flutes in D and one bass flute in G. The three flutes in D have different roles, where the highest flute plays the highest registers then the third flute plays the tenor register. It is important for these identical flutes to tune all the consort instruments together. Transverse flutes are some made of a single piece of wood or out of animal bones. This instrument can be considered as the oldest member of the flute family and has been used throughout Europe in the Middle Ages.

In Germany, Theobald Boehm was considered the first person that played the flute in the olden days and was known for his good style of music. Most flutists nowadays will recognise his name in the flute world. Theobald Boehm was born on April 9, 1794 in Munich, Germany and died in the year 1881. He wrote quite a lot of compositions but most of his solos are not well-known even in the present day. As he succeeds as an inventor, his fame as a composer and a performer went down.

In the year 1828, he opened a factory in which he developed the first Boehm flute in 1832. The flute was characterized by a system of levers or keys and rings to control the open and close of the holes. The ring keys are for the finger to close a hole and at the same time to activate another key that is far from the finger. A rod is used to connect the holes together. Boehm's original system was improved by many flute makers and was widely used in the late 1830s. In Germany, the flute system was