

**Clarinet Conditioning – Warm-ups and Perspectives****David Cook****Conway Publications 2022****\$43.75****Lori Ardivino, Reviewer**

Dr. David Cook, Clarinet Professor at Millikin University, has undertaken a huge project in designing a useful pedagogical and resource text. In the first section of this book, Dr. Cook compiled interviews with highly respected clarinetists with prestigious careers including university professors, chamber musicians, orchestral musicians, and military musicians. These professionals offer insightful and valuable information from their respective pedagogical approach, their own practice routines and a substantial collection of tried-and-true exercises and materials for study. I found it quite interesting to read about their thoughts on warm-up routines and teaching approach with their students.

Part 2 contains a variety of topics including stretching, breathing and airflow, tone, voicing, intonation, technical patterns, and articulation. For each of these topics, Dr. Cook includes the personal techniques offered by each of the interviewed professionals along with contributions of his own. I appreciate the extensive technique exercises of Chapter 14. This chapter contains a wide variety of patterns that are quite useful. Chapter 16, the final chapter, is a compilation of all the topics containing much food for thought. Each topic contains a “Questions to Consider,” which encourages the reader to develop their own warm-up routine, or to reexamine their current practice schedule. An in-depth appendix section covers other topics such as metronome and tempo markings, strategies for practicing, intonation supplements, articulation patterns and a listing of resources and further reading on more useful techniques and practices.

I am impressed with the time and effort Dr. Cook put into this book. It is insightful, thorough, comprehensive and is invaluable as a guide for clarinetists of all ages. Bravo David!

**About the Reviewer**

Dr. Ardivino is an Artist/Clinician with Conn-Selmer Company, D’Addario Woodwinds and is a Fulbright Specialist. Currently, she is Professor Music at the University of Montevallo where she teaches clarinet, saxophone and woodwind methods and ensembles. She is an active composer and has had her works performed across the United States, Japan, Italy, and Canada. Her CDs include, *From A Crack In The Wall*, *Between Walls*, *The LeBaron Trio*, and *Saxophone Music by Living Women Composers*. She is a graduate of Minnesota State University-Moorhead (BM, BA), Michigan State University (MM) and the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music (DMA). She is the faculty advisor for the Mu Eta Chapter of Sigma Alpha Iota, is the Alabama State Chair for the International Clarinet Association and Music Editor for the National Association of College Wind and Percussion Instructors. She performs with the LeBaron Trio, the Meallo Trio, the Vinna Trio and the Cahaba Saxophone Quartet.