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## **Giovanni Punto (1746-1803) Cor basse célèbre**

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## Propositions Teunis van der Zwart

1. Giovanni Punto's focus on ornamental elements within horn melodies, as meticulously elucidated in the *Seule et Vraie Méthode*, illuminates a performance approach that has regrettably waned in modern horn playing practices.
2. The cor basse is a largely forgotten instrument that deserves a revival.
3. The simultaneous use of lip bending and hand stopping techniques is essential for producing natural sounding non-harmonics on the natural horn.
4. The long-standing perception of the natural horn as a challenging and unpredictable instrument has significantly shaped the practice of generations of natural horn players. Challenging this idea underlines the possibilities of a more spontaneous approach to interpreting historical solo horn parts and argues for heterogeneity in concert performance.
5. The historical performance practice of Western music has exhibited a far greater diversity in instrumentation, articulation, timbral nuances and playing techniques than contemporary perceptions might suggest.
6. The classical music sector should embrace a significant degree of unpredictability in performance practice to continue to attract audiences.
7. Engaging in the deliberate practice of historical instruments and their playing techniques is the most direct way to acquire some of the knowledge and skills of our musical ancestors, and to contribute to the preservation of their cultural heritage.
8. The decline in the diversity of performance practices within the historical Western music tradition is related to the pervasive influence of subjective judgments of artistic value and meaning.
9. The rapid loss of biological species can be correlated with the human inclination to apply subjective assessments of worth and significance.
10. The absence of silence and darkness threatens ecological balance and poses risks to human well-being, including possible adverse effects on sleep patterns, circadian rhythms, and general mental and physical health.