

*Ralf-Jörn Köster's book is an excellent guide to making oboe reeds, from choosing cane through to the finished product. Using high quality illustrations he demonstrates clearly, for example, the tying on of a reed. It is explained precisely which areas of the scraped reed are responsible for which aspect of the reed's performance, showing the author's expertise in his field. This book will help every oboist become more structured in their reedmaking. I highly recommend it to students, as they can use these years of study to develop the reedmaking skills necessary for future professional life.*

*Professor Kai Frömbgen*

*Professor at the Robert Schumann Hochschule, Düsseldorf and principal oboist of the Chamber Orchestra of Europe*

*With this book, Ralf-Jörn Köster has succeeded in explaining, clearly and concisely, the steps necessary to produce a good oboe reed. Not only can he draw from his experience in order to make his own reeds, but as a result of years of teaching at college level, he knows how to put the subject matter across to students. A well-organised method, supported by clear illustrations and precise measurements, make this manual a helpful tool in producing good reeds. I have rarely seen such exact specifications for processing reed cane, arising from the desire to achieve more predictable results, rather than leaving things to chance. Using this book can make reedmaking fun! I hope this guide receives the recognition it deserves and wish all its readers good luck and good reeds!*

*Professor Jochen Müller-Brincken*

*Professor of Oboe at the University of Music, Würzburg*