



In reading through the many tributes written about Wibb, I am struck by the commonality of experiences. For so many, when hearing Wibb play for the first time, something inside said “yes - that’s it!!!” We were graced by his generosity of time and spirit in lessons, Masterclasses, and on stage. We felt the contagious nature of his joyful essence: the joy of in tune tone, storytelling, blueberries, creating, tinkering, chicken s\*\*t, foxes, cats, dogs, hospitality, vibrant colours, swimming in very cold ocean waters, and climbing trees.

I feel so blessed to have spent a week each June with Wibb on Pender Island, BC, Canada, since 2010. When Michie joined us in 2018, I learned even more about flute mastery, and had the pleasure to glimpse their wonderful life together. I have about 200 hours of Moyse “24” and Masterclass recordings, 10 recitals, and a CD, which warm my heart and stir my soul. The last 2 flute retreat years we were online, which was disappointing, and at the same time, we were very fortunate to interview Wibb on zoom about many flute standards, as well as the “Legacy of Moyse and Gilbert”, and more.

My favourite performing memory occurred in the dress rehearsal for PIFR 2013 - I was playing a piccolo piece by Damare, and decided there needed to be a twirl in the middle. He stared at me with his twinkling blue eyes - “are you going to do that in the concert?” he asked. When I said “yes, of course,” he jumped up, sat next to Colleen Athparia, hijacked the lower half of the piano and added a “brass band” section to the piece!

Wibb, I treasure the notes you left in my music, unbeknownst to me. I giggle in delight to know that you fixed my cupboard doors with chicken s\*\*t. I love that I fell asleep every night on Pender to your joy filled, resonant sound. You are deeply missed, and will forever be cherished by the many souls you touched with your beautiful spirit.

With love and profound gratitude,  
Gwen Klassen  
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