

## A NOTE FROM *Johnstone-Music*

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## SHORT NOTES on MAURICE MARTENOT

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Birth: 14th October 1898 - Paris

Death: 8th October 1980

Full name: Maurice Louis Eugène Martenot

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Maurice Martinot was a French cellist, a radio telegrapher during the first World War, and an inventor. Born in Paris, Martenot studied cello and composition at the Paris Conservatory and was a student of the French composer André Gédalge.

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He is best known for his invention of the 'ondes Martenot', an instrument he first realized in 1928 and which then he spent decades improving. He first demonstrated the ondes martenot at the Paris Opera in 1928. He unveiled a microtonal model in 1938. He also was responsible for teaching the first generation of ondes Martenot performers, including Karel Goeyvaerts, Jeanne Loriod, Georges Savaria, Gilles Tremblay, and his sister Ginette Martenot. Martenot wrote studies on the instrument's use and on music education, including *Méthode Martenot* (1952; "The Martenot Method") and *Principes fondamentaux de formation musicale et leur application* (1970; "Fundamental Notions of Music Education and Their Application").

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Martenot himself performed as an 'ondist' with the Philadelphia Orchestra under Leopold Stokowski in 1930. The 1937 World's Fair in Paris awarded him "Le Grand Prix de l'Exposition Mondiale". He taught lessons at the Paris Conservatoire from the 1940s and established his own institution, the Martenot Art School at Neuilly.

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He also taught relaxation techniques and published *Se relaxer, pourquoi? comment?* ("Relaxing: Why? How?") in 1977.

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A Martenot biography, in French, has been written by ondist Jean Laurendeau. His invention of the ondes Martenot is the subject of the 2013 Quebec documentary 'Wavemakers', in which Laurendeau also appears.

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'documenting the cello'

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Also both general musical and cello based articles, directories of famous historical cellists, and many other items of interest

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To take advantage of this, try to write to us three weeks or more in advance with any information. Last-minute entries are certainly better than not writing at all - however, understandably, once we have past the calendar month of the event it is not usually possible to add old items to the calendar. It is very interesting for the promoters of ***Johnstone-Music*** to have knowledge of your activity - and so in return for your information you will be entitled to a free gift of a work/s for every diary addition you tell us about. To find out more about this, please visit the "***Cello Club***" section in the web!