

# CELLO CONCEPTS

by Andrea Yun

## Left Arm

Soft thumb and armpit

Curved fingers

Tunnel fingers

U-shaped thumb

EWP straight

Arm/thumb balance

Prepare for balance shift

-Arm takes you there

-Release to shift

Fingers connect to chest, not thumb

Finger independence

Wristwatch faces ceiling up high

(Inside corners)

Play from back (W muscles)

Fingers before bow

Old finger, old string, old bow shift

New finger, new string, new bow

Neighbor finger relaxed

Thumb over two strings

80-20-Go

Lift, Drop, Release

Hypotenuse rule

## Right Arm

Soft thumb, armpit, and arm

Bow hold (mouse house)

U-shaped thumb

Stop, Drop, & Roll (Drop/Tug, Go)

Release right arm on upbows (nest)

Play from back (W muscles)

(W)SCP!

1/16 rule

Prepare arm for string change

Bow angle (X or T bow)

Move from fingers

Move from wrist

Move from elbow

Move from shoulder

Bow always in charge

## Ear Training

\* Tune from bottom

\* Tune 3rds low

## Shifting

\* Practice the shift,  
not the notes.

\* Make the note before  
the shift beautiful.

\* It's not the note  
that's out of tune; it's  
the shift.

\* Middle note = old  
finger, new position

## Cello essentials

\* Quality rosin (e.g. Hill,  
Bernadel)

\* Strap or rock stop

\* Cloth

\* Suzuki CD/mp3s

\* Metronome

\* Tuner

\* Music, Folder, Pencil

## Body

Tall back

Long neck

Shoulders down/back

Everything in circles

Forte bow, piano fingers

Piano bow, forte fingers

Body moves with bow

Body moves against bow

Play from the ground

Play from your core

## Cello Care

\* Treat cello like baby

\* Loosen bow after each use

\* Don't touch the hair

\* Always walk around cello, not  
over

\* Change strings/repair bow  
every 1-2 years

\* Leave cello in car at times  
you'd leave a child in the car.  
(so... not in the trunk)

\* When the sound post falls  
inside the cello, slightly loosen  
tension on strings so cello  
doesn't implode