The aim of this work is the translation with commentary of the method by Jacques-Martin Hotteterre Principes de la Flète Traversière ou Flète d’Allemagne, de la Flète Bec ou Flète Douce et du Haut-Bois (Principles of the Flute, Recorder and Oboe) with special emphasis on the historical performance practice and ornamentation. It is the first method for transverse flute pro příčnou flétnu, which became one of the most favorable instruments in France in the beginning of the 18th century. The translation, which comes out from the first print of 1707 at Christophe Ballard in Paris, maintains the structure of the text and uses preferentially Czech terminology, which, however, lacks the established terms in this field. In a case of non-existing Czech equivalent, the French term is being retained.

Not only because of its primacy belongs Hotteterre’s treatise to the most important methods for the transverse flute. It is also the basic source for the informations about the period woodwind instruments and witnesses performance practice in France at the turn of 17th and 18th century. The numerous reprints and translations confirms that this method was very much in demand and use, and till the appearance of the Quantz’s On the playing the Flute, was considerd as the most significant method for the flute.