

Petry Flutes & Piccolos

Meeting Adam Petry, the Man Behind the Curtain.

-Jeana Melilli

Johannes Brahms tells us, "Without craftsmanship, inspiration is a mere reed shaken in the wind." Adam Petry has come to Atlanta from Kentucky (albeit circuitously) to bring both his skills as a craftsperson in creating piccolo headjoints, and his skills as a repairperson to the Southeast.

Adam began his career as a flutist, getting a Bachelor of Music in Flute Performance from Eastern Kentucky University. After much success at a variety of festivals, orchestras, and masterclasses, he also began to cultivate his love of instrument mechanics. He earned a degree (with honors) in Instrument Repair from Minnesota State. As he settled into the repair world of central Kentucky, he felt drawn to repairing more professional flutes and piccolos.



Adam with David Straubinger



Headjoints in production

After visiting his best friend, who was apprenticesing at Covey Oboes in Blairsville, Adam decided to move to Georgia (with his cat) and work at Covey also. "Both a piccolo and an oboe are just wooden tubes with holes in them. Keys are keys and acoustics are acoustics," Adam said, so he cultivated the skills of the instrument maker with our dear double reed friends. As he applied these skills to making piccolos, and repairing flutes and piccolos, he eventually found that he needed to move on from Covey. Since the majority of his repair clients were in the Atlanta area, he moved to Roswell to take a chance at running his own business of flute repair and making piccolo headjoints.

"The first time I made a piccolo headjoint and played and loved it, I put my first serial number on it. However," Adam cautions, "having someone else play it and love it is both a terrifying and exhilarating experience." Once he received positive feedback from other players who loved his work, he settled down to build his workshop.

Working with flutists, whether as their repairperson, or creating an instrument for them to play, is part of Adam's passion. "Ultimately, players and makers are artists, and we have to work together. There's a moment of vulnerability in creating something new. Those are the moments in which we shine through."



Adam with Lisa Bartholow, and her new Kingwood headjoint.

(Pettry Flutes & Piccolos Cont'd)

Adam loves the economic and artistic community that Atlanta affords, and he looks forward to creating piccolo bodies eventually, as he grows his headjoint-making business. There are many different woods and models from which to choose already. To investigate further, Adam's website is www.piccolorepair.com

The Atlanta Flute Club also appreciates Adam's skill at web-site design, as he has launched the new website for the club.

Adam said that as a young kid, he grew up on a small farm. He came across cane in a wet marshy area that dried out in winter. "I would spend all winter making bamboo flutes." It will be exiting to hear what comes out of these new creations from Pettry Piccolos. The excited bamboo flute maker is still there, with new materials.



Adam is a Straubinger and JS Gold Pads Certified Technician.



Left:
Headjoints in
many cuts and
woods.



Right:
Piccolo Crowns
in various
woods &
weights.

The logo for Spotted Rocket Publishing features a central white rocket ship with red and yellow fins. A blue banner wraps around the middle of the rocket, with 'Spotted' on the left and 'Rocket' on the right, both in white, slightly shadowed, serif-style text. Below the rocket, a smaller circular banner contains the word 'PUBLISHING' in a gold-colored, serif font.

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