

Tape No. 2 of 3

General Description: playing the Alphorn

:35 – 8:20 starts talking about how he started playing the Alphorn at University of Portland. Alphorn is a very long Swiss horn. It comes apart into three pieces, originals were one large piece. Talks about how old Alphorns were made and how they used as a type of early telephone that allowed them send messages over longer distances. Has met other people who play Alphorn and they play at Swiss festivals and some other small events as background music. When they practice in the backyard a lot of times the neighbors will hear and show up to listen. Mark comments on how in that sense the Alphorn still functions as a kind of telephone or communication device.

8:20 tape 2 ends

Tags

Alphorn, Music, Music-Instruments, Swiss festivals, Switzerland, University of Portland

Tape No. 3 of 3

:00 –:39 Mark talks about how the Alphorn is played and demonstrates how to play it. It sounds similar to a trumpet.

:40 – 4:30 talks about practicing for performances, importance of good acoustics. Nature of long slow notes of Alphorn music. Only 12 notes, played like a bugle with lips, no buttons or valves. Don't practice often anymore because it is hard to get everyone together on the same day. Practice mostly in the summer. Really only play for Helvetia Swiss Festival anymore.

4:30 – close up shots of Mark's Nussbaum Alphorn from Switzerland. Shows intricate, artistic design of a scene in Saegersville, Switzerland (spelling?) where his grandmother was from.

6:00 – 8:58 shows cowbell that his great-grandfather brought from Switzerland. The great-grandfather and his brothers each were given bells to take with them to America so they would remember their home country. They buried the cowbells to make them look tarnished and old so that they wouldn't have to pay duties on them when entering the American port. Mark shows a variety of other bells that he has collected

8:58 – tape ends

### Tags

Alphorn, Bells, Helvetia Swiss Festival, Music, Music-Instruments, University of Portland, Switzerland