Verbessert, improved and perfectionné - How 19th century woodwind players influenced the development of their instruments or vice versa.

In the 19th century the development of woodwind instruments experienced an immense boost. Here musicians, woodwind instrument makers and also the industrial mass production played a crucial role. But who was the driving force behind the development or ,improvement' of instruments? Who set the tone in instrument making? What influence did improved instruments have on performance practice and how did the changing musical taste influence their development? This presentation will look for answers with the help of a few case studies and shed some light on the complex interplay of handcraft and musicianship.



Anne Pustlauk discovered her love for the transverse flute during her flute studies with Prof. Renate Greiss-Armin in Karlsruhe. This lead her to the Royal Conservatory in Brussels (KCB) with Barthold Kuijken and Frank Theuns where she earned her bachelors and masters degrees. After having delved into the music of the 18th century, she began playing the simple system flute. In 2011 she undertook a Doctoral Research Program in the Arts at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB) and the KCB with the help of a Ph.D. scholarship from the Fellowship of Research Foundation – Flanders

(FWO). The main theme of her research was the flute and its performance practice in the first half of the 19th century. Aside from her interest in research, her primary aim has always been solo performance, chamber music and playing orchestral music. She shares her knowledge about the flute and its varied performance practice in masterclasses and presentations with great enthusiasm.