# MUSIC AND THE BASSOON Unit 32

There are 3 forms of the A Minor scale. Memorize the notes in each scale pattern:

#### 1a. A Natural Minor



#### 1b. A Melodic Minor



### 1c. A Harmonic Minor



Listen for a crisp, clean tone on each note. If there is a barking or cracking noise, you need to adjust the timing on your flicking, and/or the speed of your airstream, and/or the shape of your embouchure. Experiment!

**PRACTICE TIP:** It is helpful to practice staccato lines by playing them legato. This helps you feel a connected musical line and the continuous movement of your airstream (both of which should be present no matter how short the articulation).

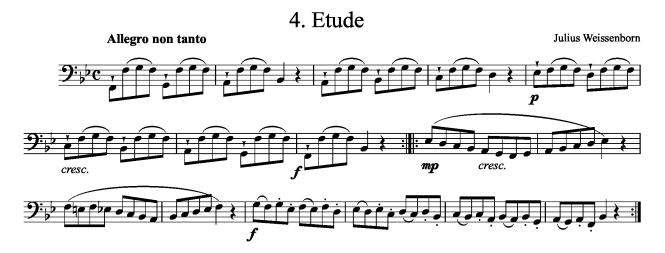
#### 2. Short and Sweet



### 3. Broad Tone



Prior to playing this etude, practice playing F2 to G2 slowly to establish a smooth connection. If the notes do not connect, or if the G squeaks, make sure your fingers are moving simultaneously, check the size of your half hole, and make sure your air stream flows purposefully between the two notes.



## 5. Simple Gifts



Bourée – A quick 17th Century Dance in duple meter, usually with a pick-up note.

#### 6. Bourée

Learn both parts to this duet. When F# follows Bb (as in the bottom part in measure 6, and three before the end) use the front F# fingering with your right pinkie. Using the thumb F# would cause a blip between the notes as your thumb jumped from the Bb to the F# key.

