

Balancing Acts

*The Fingers of the Left Hand, the Mechanics of Pitch
Production, Vibrato and the Holding of the Violin/Viola*

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SUPPOSITIONS AND AXIOMS

- **The oblique alignment and precision posture of the fingers upon the fingerboard becomes, with the adductive support of the thumb, both a means of creating pitch and the fundamental strategy for securing the violin as a platform upon which it is played.**
- **The contact of fingertip and string, and thus pitch creation itself, is a RESIDUAL of the finger's balance on the fingerboard towards the left (player's perspective) side of the string.**
- **The spread of the padded surface of the fingertip to the string is crucial to the production of sound and intonation.**
- **The development of shaping and positional habits in the fingers leads to the creation of a Dynamic Arch. The Dynamic Arch becomes the basis of all finger action, shifting, vibrato and left hand dexterity.**

