Fitting Kung 'Classica' Bass and Great Bass Mouth Pipes

These pipes need to be assembled to the recorder anti-clockwise and removed clockwise. This is not what you might expect and can give rise to difficulties.

The sling should be adjusted so that the recorder is a shade low. If this is done there will only be upward pressure (anti-clockwise) on the beak so that there will be no tendency for the pipe to move out of the socket.

If the sling is too short, a simple remedy is to permanently fix a small loop of cord to one of the suspension rings.

There is no need to make yourself a slave to the sling. You do not have to use the top suspension ring if you don't want to. If you do, it will allow the top of the recorder to move away from you without dropping down so that the recorder hangs across your body. This may make your hand positions more comfortable. Have confidence in your sling and experiment. The recorder should hang so that the beak is comfortably against your mouth. Do not use your lips or teeth as part of the way you hold the recorder.

The angled part of the notch at the end of the mouth pipe is there to force the friction joint between the slightly conical parts to separate without tension on the joint between the metal socket and the wooden part of the recorder. (Old instruments may give trouble on account of wear. I can solve the problem quickly and easily by deepening the notch slightly.) Keep the end of the mouth pipe and the metal socket clean. Wipe them dry after playing, to reduce the chance of corrosion, and do not apply any joint grease or oil. Such lubricant will interfere with the friction grip that holds the pipe in place and it would also attract dirt that would score and damage the mating surfaces.