

Basic Detail Report



Mellophone, F, E-flat, D, C, high pitch / low pitch

Date

1908 ca.

Primary Maker

C. G. Conn

Description

Circular mellophone made in silver-plated brass with satin finish. Burnished engraving and bell interior. Three, top-sprung, Périnet valves with mother-of-pearl touchpieces. Rotary change-valve to alter pitch. One water-key on

leadpipe. The Perfected Wonder mellophone model only appears in Conn advertising from 1908 (June) to 1910. The No. 13 patent can be found for the rotary device, although #1,061,885 (applied for 12/9/1909; awarded 5/13/1913) addresses a different means to accomplish the same key by means of a sliding perforated valve, so the company was investigating various options. Presumably, this avenue ceased after the May 22, 1910, fire. The rotary valve allows one to change pitches (F, E flat, D, C) without the insertion of crooks or slides, which are built in.

Dimensions

Bell diameter: 230 mm / 9 in