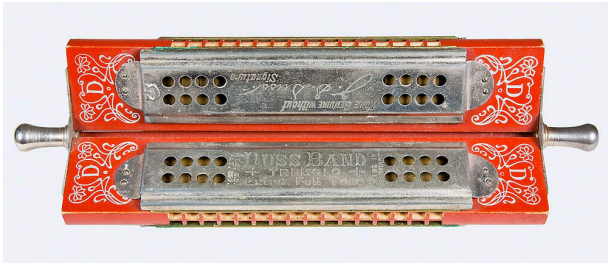


Basic Detail Report



Triplet harmonica

Date

1905-1915 ca.

Primary Maker

J. S. Duss

Description

Metal casings, wooden combs painted red. 2 reed plates with 16 brass reeds each, 32 reeds per harmonica, 96 total reeds. 16 double holes per harmonica, each compartment housing 1 reed, 2 reeds per hole (1 blow, 1 draw). This early triple-harmonica was manufactured as part of the clever publicity machine organized by R. E. Johnson for John Samuel Duss, a cornet player from Pennsylvania. With the help of his agent, Duss worked his way to the role of conductor of the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra. According to Pittsburgh Music History, Duss was indeed a talented musician, composer and conductor; however, he was apparently a controversial showman and a bit of a narcissist, as reported by the national press.

Dimensions

8-1/2 x 2-3/4 inches