

Basic Detail Report



Soprano ukulele

Date

1895-1905 ca.

Primary Maker

Jose do Espirito Santo

Description

Stringing: 4 gut strings Soundboard: two-piece koa, medium downward sloping curl beginning near soundhole and continuing through the lower bout Back: two-piece hardwood Ribs: two-piece hardwood; separated by a five-piece inlay of alternating light and dark hardwood at the center of the bottom Head: hardwood; integral with neck; overlay consists of a center strip of light and dark hardwood in a split herringbone design pointing upward bordered on the outsides with one strip each of dark and light hardwood, and split in the center with five pieces of alternating dark and light hardwood with the center piece of dark wood twice the thickness of the other strips;

twenty-two pieces of various hardwoods inlaid sloping downward over the rest of the head; decorative shaped head, style VII (see NALU music: Some Ukulele Headstocks, in the file) Tuning Pegs: dark hardwood Neck: hardwood; integral with head; neck heel is separate piece Heel cap: separate from the back [probably not original] Binding: angled, alternating pieces of dark and light hardwood with one each of dark and light hardwood strips for trim, on top only Fretboard: separate from neck; center strip of light and dark hardwood in a split herringbone design pointing downward bordered on the outsides with one strip each of dark and light hardwood, and split in the center with five pieces of alternating dark and light hardwood with the center piece of dark wood twice the thickness of the other strips; various species of hardwoods making up the remainder of each fret; 12 brass frets Nut: bone Bridge: koa; separate wooden saddle; bordered by angled, alternating pieces of dark and light hardwood with one each of dark and light hardwood strips for trim Bridge pins: ivory Tuners: turned pegs made from dark, tropical hardwood with open pores; not a matched set Rosette: two rings of angled, alternating pieces of koa and light hardwood surrounded on each side with light hardwood strip trim separated by koa [topwood]; followed by a ring of koa [topwood] and one light hardwood ring Varnish: light golden Linings: soft wood Neck block: hardwood; rounded corners; hardwood reinforcing strip affixed perpendicular to the back End block: hardwood; rounded face Top braces: softwood transverse braces with tapered ends above and below soundhole Back braces: one light wood back brace with slightly tapered ends Rib reinforcement: Paper lining extending from the neck block and terminating before the widest point of the lower bout

Dimensions

Total ukulele length: 510 mm (20-1/8") Back length: 227 mm (9-15/16") Upper bout width: 110 mm (4-5/16") Waist width: 75 mm (3-1/2") Lower bout width: 135 mm (5-5/16") Rib height (including edging) at heel: 38.5 mm (1-1/2") Rib height, at waist: 41.6 mm (1-5/8") Rib height, at end block: 40.3 mm (1-17/32") Head length: 120 mm (4-23/32") Head width, top: 56 mm (2-1/4") Head width, bottom: 49 mm (1-15/16") Neck length (nut to ribs): 166 mm (6-17/32") Neck width, nut: 36 mm (1-13/32") Neck width, heel: 42 mm (1-21/32") Soundhole diameter: 35.7 mm (1-13/32") Vibrating string length (nut to bridge edge): 329 mm (12-31/32")