



Hardingfele

Date

1810-1846 ca.

Primary Maker

Johannes Bårdsen Tveit

Description

Stringing: four bowed strings and four sympathetic strings passing under fingerboard Top: two-piece, quarter-cut spruce: medium grain broadening toward the edges; grain converges slightly in upper bout Back: two-piece, slab-cut birch: broad curl ascending from center joint Ribs: quarter-cut birch: broad curl angled to right; one-piece lower rib Head and neck: maple: birch; scarfed graft through most of neck with large wood dowels at upper and lower end of joint; head terminates in scroll with chipped decoration on pegbox sides and back; two birch wedges under fingerboard Arching: very high, rising abruptly from the edges Purfling: widely spaced double inked lines on top and back Decoration: no further inked decoration Varnish: medium brown Fingerboard: ebony; inlaid on end with mother of pearl flowers and leaves with incised black and green ink-filled decoration and nickel-silver stems; later (attributed by Toby Weinberg to Andres Kelven, Christiania school, early 20th century) Nut: ebony; later Tailpiece: ebony; inlaid on end with mother of pearl flowers and leaves with incised black, red, and green ink-filled decoration and nickel-silver stems; tailgut passes through holes trilled in face; four nickel silver hooks mounted to front edge hold bowed strings; two nickel-silver hooks comprised of single wire passing through holes drilled in face hold sympathetic strings; later (attributed by Toby Weinberg to Andres Kelven, Christiania school, early 20th century) Tailgut: nickel-

silver wire Pegs: 10 brown-stained birch; roughly cut, slightly undercut heads Saddle: brown-stained birch; deep; set slightly into top Endpin: dark brown hardwood with mother-of-pearl eye; small head; later F-holes: very narrow, curved wings; no notches; slightly bevelled lower wing surface Linings: hardwood; very

small and narrow Corner blocks: hardwood; very small Top block: integral with neck; base at joint with back extends in pointed shape over carved ridge running along center of back Bottom block: hardwood; very small with bevelled corners; rests on platform at joint with back Bassbar: carved from wood of top; very long; low height; very narrow Back brace: shaped like a bassbar carved from wood of back, running along center and widening toward top; top and bottom blocks rest on platforms contiguous with this brace

Dimensions

Total hardingfele length: 585 mm Back length: 350 mm Upper bout width: 149 mm Center bout width: 98 mm Lower bout width: 189 mm Upper rib height: 31-32 mm Center rib height: 30-31 mm Lower rib height: 31-32 mm Stop length: 174 mm Vibrating string length: 287 mm Neck length (bottom of nut to ribs): 113 mm