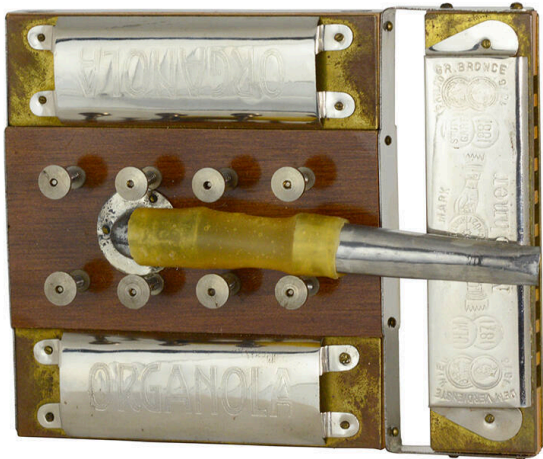


Basic Detail Report



Diatonic harmonica and bass/blow accordion

Date

1903

Primary Maker

Matthias Hohner

Description

This Organola has features of both a conventional diatonic harmonica and a blow accordion, which allows the player to play a tune on the harmonica and play tonic/chord accompaniment at the same time. It consists of one diatonic harmonica attached to two bass chord harmonicas, activated by a blow mouthpiece and buttons. The mouthpiece is held under the upper lip and moves sideways by virtue of the flexible tube. Diatonic harmonica: metal casings, wooden comb varnished honey one side, painted black three sides, 2 brass plates with 10 brass reeds each, 20 reeds. 10 holes, 2 reeds per hole (1 blow, 1 draw). Attached to the blow accordion section with a metal bracket which also holds together the three section of the blow accordion at the front of the instrument. Blow accordion attachment: metal casings and sound chamber, wooden body in three sections, all varnished brown. These sections are held together by a metal bracket at the back and front of the instrument (the front one holds the diatonic harmonica). 8 metal buttons with springs, metal mounting elbow for rubber hose which attaches to metal mouthpiece. Each button on the left side produces a bass/tonic note: C, G, F, and D, while the buttons on the right side produce three note chords: C, G7, F, D7. These notes sound when blowing into the mouthpiece. Despite the glowing claims in its huge ad campaign, Organola sales were meager. In theory, musicians could play a tune and an accompanying chord simultaneously. In reality, they had to simultaneously blow into the main harmonica for the melody and into the top tube to activate the side harmonicas' accompaniment.

Dimensions

See Harmonica Description Sheet.