

A viola bow by Gustav Prager, Markneukirchen, c. 1920

Catalogue Number RKT-0211

\$4,000

Branded: “GUSTAV PRAGER”

Repairs: There are no visible repairs.

Condition: This bow is in excellent condition with a modest amount of wear. All parts are apparently original, though the tip face may have been replaced.

Comments: Attention to the details of workmanship and perfect selection of materials are evident in this older German bow. All the parts fit well, the compact frog is of the blackest ebony and the stick is of rich looking pernambucco. The square heel of the frog is not common on a viola bow in our century, but was more often seen a hundred years ago. This bow is slightly lighter than the average for viola bows, but has good strength and will meet the demands of many players.

Biography: Oskar Gustav Prager was born in 1866 into a family tradition in Markneukirchen and became well respected as both a violin and bow maker. Though William Henley's reference book does not mention his bowmaking, many examples of his bows are seen at auctions. He was established under his own name in 1907 and continued unto his death in 1931. As this present bow bears his name we can conclude it is from this period.

PRAGER, OSKAR GUSTAV. *b. 1866, Markneukirchen—d. 1931, Markneukirchen.*

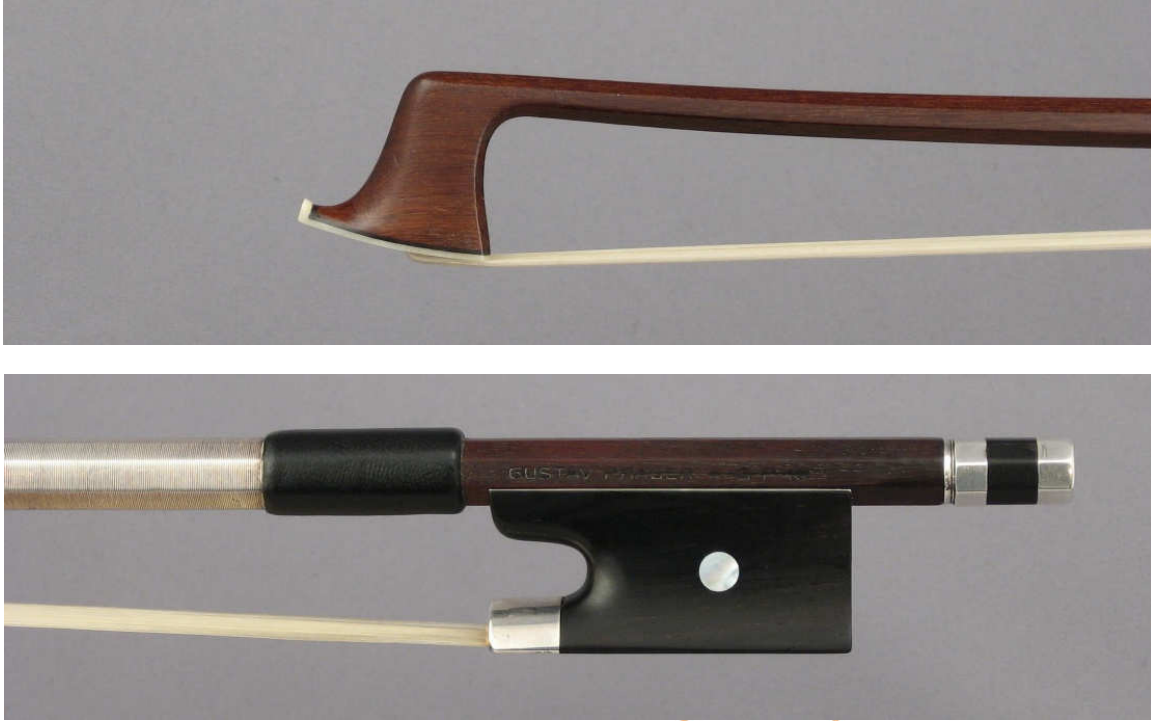
Good violin and bow maker. Worked for Albin Brückner and Karl F. Pfretzschner. Established his own business in 1907.

- From 'Bows for Musical Instruments' by Joseph Roda, 1959

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A violin bow by Gustav Prager, branded: “GUSTAV PRAGER”

Description: This bow has an octagonal stick of dark red-brown pernambucco wood with an ivory tip face and silver wire grip. It has a silver mounted ebony frog with a mother of pearl slide and small dot. The divided adjuster is of silver and ebony. This bow is in excellent condition and shows no repairs.

Weight: 68 grams

Balance point: 25 cm. from the adjuster

June 22, 2010