

A viola by Sig. Hoibakke, 1962

Catalogue Number: RKT-0527

\$3,500

Signed: “Sig. Hoibakke, Victoria B.C. 1962”

Repairs: The peg holes have been bushed, but there are no other visible repairs.

Condition: This instrument is in good condition and shows little playing.

Comments: Sigisvald Hoibakke was an important figure in the Victoria music scene in the 1950's and 60's. He was a machinist from Norway who turned his hand to violin making and repairing after immigrating to Victoria following World War II. The many instruments he produced are warmly regarded by classical and folk musicians alike. His workshop was in his home on Pembroke Street near Stanley Avenue in the Fernwood area of Victoria. This instrument still belongs to its original owner, a relative of the maker who tells us that it was unfinished at the maker's death and the family had the varnishing done by a maker in Vancouver.

HOIBAKKE, SIG.

Amateur maker at Victoria, B.C., Canada. Born 1901 at Volda, Norway. Studied the craft in Norway. To date has completed about 50 instruments, but has repaired and rebuilt many more. Uses spruce and maple. Strad and Joseph Guarnerius models. Good tone.

- From: “Dictionary of Contemporary Violin and Bow Makers” by Cyril Woodcock, 1965.
- The maker died in Victoria c. 1976

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Description: This instrument has a two-piece maple back showing fine flame ascending from the centre joint. The neck is of similar material while the ribs show broader figure. The button of the back has an ivory crown and the nut and an inlay around the endpin hole are also of ivory. The fittings are of ebony. The front is of two pieces of spruce showing medium grain and becoming broader towards the edges. There is a small knot in the edge of the lower treble bout of the front. The varnish is of a red colour over a yellow ground in very good condition and showing little wear. The peg holes have been bushed, but otherwise there are no visible repairs.

Back Measurements:

Length: 414mm. Upper bout: 190mm. Middle bout: 130mm. Lower bout: 235mm.

May 4th, 2010