

A violin by R. Kim Tipper, 1994

Catalogue Number: RKT-0277

\$10,000

Labeled: “R. Kim Tipper, Saskatoon, Anno 1994 No. 12”



Kim Tipper began instrument making in Saskatoon in 1983 and his first violin dates from 1984. He is mainly self-taught and received direction from other makers such as David Palm and David Miller. Since 1987 he has also been an active repairer and dealer, moving his shop to Victoria BC in 1995. This violin from 1994 was largely made under the direction of Karl Roy at the University of New Hampshire summer program in 1994 and finished over the following winter. It is built on a large Guarneri pattern with its long middle bouts and sound holes. It has not previously been sold, but has been borrowed by several students.

Repairs: This instrument was re-varnished by the maker in 2004. The neck has been slightly reduced in size from its original dimensions, but otherwise it is as it was originally made.

Condition: It is in like new condition with some evidence of wear from players.

Comments: This instrument is made of big-leaf maple and Sitka spruce from Vancouver Island. The choice of Canadian wood gives it a different sound from European instruments, which Kim feels is more dark. Kim has been very pleased with how the sound of the violin has improved with time. It is a large strongly built violin and which will suit an energetic player.

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Description: This instrument has a two-piece back of big-leaf maple showing medium flame descending slightly from the centre joint. The sides and neck are of matching wood. The front is of two pieces of Sitka spruce showing broad flame becoming finer towards the centre joint. There is a shadow of a knot near the upper bass side corner of the front. The fittings are of rosewood. The varnish is of a dark red colour over a yellow ground and is in excellent condition having been re-varnished by the maker c. 2004. The chamfers of the scroll, the edges of the peg box and the corners of the sides are picked out in black. There are no repairs.

Back measurements:

Length: 352 mm. Upper bout: 163 mm. Middle bout: 110 mm. Lower bout: 206 mm.

October 13th, 2009