

A violin by Gregory Walke, 2008

Catalogue Number: RKT-0835

\$10,000

Labeled: “Gregory T. Walke, Paisley Ontario 2008”

Repairs: There are no repairs to this violin. We have improved the setup in our shop by thinning the neck and fitting a wider bridge.

Condition: This instrument is in very good condition, new from the maker.

Comments: Although not overly high, the archings of the front and back of this violin are quite full and with a shallow channel. We feel that in time it will develop a darker sound. Already it is quite enjoyable to play with good volume.

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When he was a biology student, Gregory Walke visited Ireland with his brother Bernard. The trip proved to be a decisive experience as extended contact with traditional Irish music encouraged him to learn the violin and violin making. In 1979, Walke enrolled in the Welsh School of Violin Making and Repair in Great Britain, where he studied for three years. He furthered his knowledge during two training sessions in European workshops. In 1983, he was invited to spend a year studying and working in Michael Franke's workshop in Wiesbaden, Germany. Subsequently accepted in the Stuttgart workshop of master luthier and restorer Hieronymus Köstler, Walke spent two years learning the art of restoration and had the opportunity to work on major seventeenth- and eighteenth-century instruments. Upon returning to Canada in 1987, he opened a workshop with luthier Sibylle Ruppert and began collaborating with his brother Bernard, who is a bow maker. They have customers in Canada, the United States and Germany.



- From: www.civilisations.ca/cmce/exhibitions/arts/opus/opus601e.shtml#GregoryWalke
- Image from: www.swmf.ca/luthiers.html

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Description: This instrument has a one-piece maple back showing medium flame running horizontally across the back. The sides are of similar wood. The front is of two pieces of spruce showing fairly fine grain evenly spaced throughout. The fittings are of boxwood. The varnish is of a brown colour over a yellow ground and in very good condition. There are no visible repairs.

Back measurements:

Length: 355mm. Upper bout: 166mm. Middle bout: 112mm. Lower bout: 204mm.

May 4th, 2010