

MATHEW DART
Baroque and Classical Woodwind Instruments
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BASSOON PRICES 2020

New in 2020!

Baroque bassoon after Thomas Stanesby (c. 1668-1734)

A reconstruction of the only surviving bassoon from this famous London woodwind maker. This single example, in the Waterhouse collection, is the earliest known English bassoon - its design is apparently derived from the early French models, of which none survive, and provided the model for all the English makers of the 18th Century.

The original is a handsome beast in good cosmetic condition, but some of the internal structure has been damaged during its busy life. I have reconstructed the acoustic design with the help of data from the one surviving bassoon by Stanesby Junior (Thomas's son and apprentice), and two by Caleb Gedney, Stanesby Jnr's apprentice. (These later instruments were made to a very similar design, though adapted to play at higher pitches).

The result is a very satisfactory well balanced instrument. There is a noticeable evenness of tone qualities throughout the ranges, with a smooth transition from the good, rich bass to the singing high notes. A=415Hz.

In stained maple with brass fittings, 4 keys:	£ 4,350
Eb key (can also be retro-fitted):	£ 150

Baroque bassoon after J.C. Denner (1655-1707)

From the original three-keyed bassoon in the museum of the Brussels Conservatoire. A G#/Ab key is normally added to facilitate playing of those notes without violating tradition of the period. This results in an instrument very well suited to the baroque repertoire, with expressive and characterful tone qualities, consistent tuning and easy response. An Eb key can also be added. A=415Hz.

In stained maple with brass fittings, 4 keys:	£ 4,350
Eb key (can also be retro-fitted):	£ 150

Baroque bassoon after Johann Poerschman (c. 1680-1757)

A four-keyed instrument reconstructed from the two surviving bassoons by this Leipzig maker and player. Poerschman was the workshop master to both C.A. Grenser and J.F. Grundmann and was first bassoonist in the Leipzig "Grosse Concert-Gesellschaft". He shared a house and workshop with M. Hoffmann, the lute maker who was J.S. Bach's close friend, and was also friendly with C. Gleditsch, Bach's favoured oboe player.

The reconstruction is a sophisticated instrument with a strong tone and vocal character. The cross fingerings work well, including a good low Eb, while the high range is free-speaking and expressive. A=415Hz.

In stained maple with brass fittings, 4 keys:	£ 4,350
Eb key (can also be retro-fitted):	£ 150

Classical bassoon after JF Grundmann (1727-1800)

From an original in the Waterhouse collection, dated 1792; a 5-keyed bassoon from the 63rd year of this Dresden maker renowned for his reed instruments. Over fifty of his oboes survive, his bassoons are more rare but of equally fine quality.

One or two wing keys can be added, the design based on those existing on another fine bassoon by J.F. Floth, Grundmann's apprentice. The original has F# and C# keys added later and these can also be reproduced.

A=430Hz.

In stained maple with 5 brass keys:	£ 4,500
Retrofitted additional keys each:	£ 150
Bassoon with 7 brass keys:	£ 4,720
Bassoon with 9 brass keys:	£ 4,980

Silver fittings, keys and crooks also available, please enquire for prices.

Cases: The bassoons will be supplied in a polycarbonate case with sheet foam dividers.
Hard cases can be supplied at additional cost of: £ 250
Semi-hard gig bags for: £ 120

Postage, packing and insurance are not included in the above prices.

Crooks/Bocals: A crook is supplied with each instrument; additional crooks of various designs can be made to order - price for an existing model is £ 200; for special orders prices may vary.

I also make **Oboe staples** of various designs, price around £ 15 depending on design.

Waiting time: Please contact me for current information.

Conditions of order and sale:

- A deposit of 10% of the total price is required to confirm an order and to get you on the waiting list. This deposit will be refundable (minus transaction charges) on cancellation of order but only after the instrument has been sold to another customer.
- The balance of the price will be due on or before delivery.
- Price is fixed at time of order.
- Once you have paid for and received an instrument from me you will have 2 months to decide whether you want to keep it, during which time it can be returned for a refund of the price paid minus any postage and currency transaction charges provided that a) it is undamaged and b) it does not have any special modifications made to your order.