



Antwerp Vleeshuis Museum Inventory Number	AV.1968.008.001
Common name / Nominal Pitch	Oboe in C
Type or system	'Système Guidé' (elaborated Triebert system 4)
Maker	Albert, E.
Mark, inscriptions	("E.A." in laurels with six-point star) / E.ALBERT / A BRUXELLES / (six-point star) – on top joint; (six-point star) / E.ALBERT / A BRUXELLES / (six-point star) – on middle joint and bell.
Serial number	
Place of origin	Brussels
Date of making	Probably between 1887-1895.
Materials	Rosewood, with nickel silver or silver plated keywork.
MEASUREMENTS:	
Body Length	567.4mm
Top Joint length (body + tenon)	233.7mm + 19.6mm
Middle Joint length (body +tenon)	239.7mm + 16.1mm
Bell length	94.0mm
Acoustic Length	323.7mm
BORE:	
Minimal bore	4.5mm
Reed well diameter	7.2mm
Reed or crook well depth (if cylindrical)	17.8mm
Bore at end of Top Joint	10mm
Bore at top of Middle Joint	10.5mm
Bore at end of Middle Joint	17.4mm
Bore at top of Bell	18.5mm
TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION:	Guidé system keywork, meaning a Triebert system 4 oboe with an extra C# for L4; two manual octave keys with metal inserts in the toneholes; B/C# or C/D trill key for L3; ring key for L2 operating a vent hole under the L1

	<p>half-hole plateau, likely for c2 improvement; left B\flat and C for R1 with overlap; plateau for R2, also closed with the low C key, for high D improvement; ring key for R3 closing the F\sharp vent hole for the forked F; butterfly key and a left C\sharp for L4.</p> <p>3rd hole doubled, with finger cove.</p> <p>No vent holes and no inner rim on a short bell.</p> <p>Keyhead type: flat (but slightly domed), round, arrowed.</p> <p>Metal lining: reed well, tenons, sockets, bell end.</p>
Faults	The instrument is in very good overall condition, but to be in playing condition, some pads and springs need changing. Very little wear and tear. Reed box and grease box missing.
Case	The present case is likely original.
Playing Accessories	Reed, probably not original and for display only.
Usable Pitch	A=c435 Hz with reed: total length 64.5mm / staple 42mm / tip width 8.5mm.
Performance Characteristics	Due to the condition of the instrument only a basic scale could be produced. Warm sound with good fork fingerings, possibly due to the relatively wide minimum bore of the instrument.
Specific usage / Antecedents	According to Lambrechts-Douillez (1981) p.74, this instrument belonged to the famous oboist Guillaume Guidé (1859-1917), international soloist, oboe teacher of the Brussels Conservatoire from 1884-1908, and principal oboe of the Monnaie Opera House orchestra from 1884-1900, after which he became the co-director of the Monnaie, until his death. See Verdegem (2008) on Guidé.
Further information on maker	Haine & Meeus (1986) pp.21-3. Romain (1979). Waterhouse (1993) p.4. Verdegem (2015) pp.100-6.
Specific literature Reference about this instrument	Lambrechts-Douillez (1981) p.74. Verdegem (2015) pp.101 on the mark.
Illustration reference	Lambrechts-Douillez (1981) p.74.
General literature (about this type of instrument)	Verdegem (2015) pp.106-8 about the 'Système Guidé'.
Comparable instruments	
Remarks	The mark is not recorded in Waterhouse's <i>New Langwill Index</i> and is, according to Verdegem (2015) p.101, most probably the mark of <i>Albert frères</i> , being the three sons of Eugène Albert, a company which existed only for a few years between 1887-1895. Therefore the oboes with this mark seem to be very rare. Of the three brothers Jacques Albert was the oboe specialist, as he was also a Conservatoire trained oboe player. The keywork is an example of the 'Système Guidé', produced by (Jacques) Albert and Mahillon, Brussels, and most probably developed by the former. This is actually a Triebert system 4, with an extra left C \sharp for L4.
Bibliography	<p>(Jeannine Lambrechts-Douillez), <i>Catalogus Muziekinstrumenten, Museum Vleeshuis Antwerpen</i> (Antwerpen: Ruckers Genootschap 1981).</p> <p>William Waterhouse, <i>The New Langwill Index. A Dictionary of Musical Wind-Instrument Makers and Inventors</i> (London: Tony Bingham 1993).</p> <p>Malou Haine & Nicholas Meeùs, <i>Dictionnaire des facteurs d'instruments de musique en Wallonie et à Bruxelles</i> (Liège: Pierre Mardaga 1986).</p> <p>Pierre Romain, <i>Les Albert, facteurs de clarinettes à Bruxelles de 1839 à 1950</i> (Bruxelles, Thesis ULB 1979).</p>

	<p>Stefaan Verdegem, 'Le Poète du Hautbois', Guillaume Guidé (1859-1917)', <i>The Double Reed, Journal of the International Double Reed Society</i> vol.31/1 (2008), pp.121-4.</p> <p>Stefaan Verdegem, 'Fétis, Gevaert, Mahillon and the Oboe d'Amore', <i>The Galpin Society Journal</i> LXVIII (2015) pp.75-120.</p>
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Data by Stefaan Verdegem, Koninklijk Conservatorium Brussel, 2015.