

Antwerp Vleeshuis Museum Inventory Number	AV.0.019.028
Common name / Nominal Pitch	Oboe in C
Type or system	3 keys, (+ 1 octave key on top joint)
Maker	Debey / Anonymous
Mark, inscriptions	1 or I / DEBEY (star or asterisk) / (pistils with stamens) – on middle joint and bell.
Serial number	
Place of origin	The Low Countries (?) or Northern France (?) for Debey.
Date of making	First half of the 18th century (middle joint and bell). Second half of the 18th century (top joint).
Materials	Boxwood, with brass keys.
MEASUREMENTS:	
Body Length	595.0mm
Top Joint length (body + tenon)	237.4mm + 22.8mm
Middle Joint length (body +tenon)	245.5mm + 27.9mm
Bell length	163.3mm
Acoustic Length	
BORE:	
Minimal bore	5mm
Reed well diameter	7mm
Reed or crook well depth (if cylindrical)	
Bore at end of Top Joint	10.1mm
Bore at top of Middle Joint	
Bore at end of Middle Joint	
Bore at top of Bell	20.0mm
TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION:	<p>Compilation instrument. The middle joint and the bell are a type-C oboe, by Debey. Bell with inner rim and 2 vent holes. Raised key rings circular. The top joint is of a later type, (E-type or classical) with an ivory mount (not repeated on the middle joint and bell), unlikely to be by Debey. There is an octave key, probably added afterwards, since it does not really match the exterior. The octave key is particular: looks to be a German type but is screwed on the top joint with two pivots on an oval plate, which is typically French. 3rd hole single. The three top joint holes are identical, no undercutting. The top joint shows marks of missing or unmounted B\flat and G\sharp keys. It is not clear if these keys ever were there, or if they were taken away, then the tone holes filled. Keyhead type: Young-S for the E\flat key, and Young-Y for the C key.</p>
Faults	This composition of parts does not really work as an oboe; it was probably put together through time to make it a complete instrument.
Case	
Playing Accessories	
Usable Pitch	A=c400Hz, when played with the top joint of the Rottenburgh AV.1967.001.082 oboe, and a reed: total length 78mm / 2-part staple 59mm (27mm Chiarugi no.2 English horn staple + 36.9mm \varnothing 3.3mm x 5mm bottom staple) / tip width 9.5mm.
Performance Characteristics	
Specific usage / Antecedents	This instrument was formerly owned by the Gruuthuse Museum in Bruges, inv.no.M53. See Awouters, De Keyser & Vandenberghe (1985) p.47.

Further information on maker	Waterhouse (1993) pp.82-3.
Specific literature Reference about this instrument	Awouters, De Keyser & Vandenberghe (1985) p.47. Waterhouse (1993) pp.82-3 (as “oboe d’amore” from the Bruges Museum)
Illustration reference	Awouters, De Keyser & Vandenberghe (1985) p.47.
General literature (about this type of instrument)	
Comparable instruments	See brusselsmimoboecollection.eu (accessed 12/2015) with regards to the Debey bell on the Brussels MIM 2320 Hotteterre oboe.
Remarks	Compilation instrument: anonymous top joint, with Debey middle joint and bell. Middle joint and bell are very similar to the Vleeshuis Museum Rottenburgh AV.1967.001.082 oboe. According to M. Ponsele these are the same make. De Bey or Debey could be a member of the Rottenburgh school or workshop, so originating from the Low Countries. Few similarities with oboes of the Amsterdam school. Combined with the top joint of the Vleeshuis Museum Rottenburgh AV.1967.001.082 oboe, the Debey middle joint and bell make up a very fine playing instrument.
Bibliography	M. Awouters, I. De Keyser & S.Vandenberghe, <i>Brugge, Gruuthuusemuseum. Catalogus van de Muziekinstrumenten</i> (Brugge: Stad Brugge 1985). William Waterhouse, <i>The New Langwill Index. A Dictionary of Musical Wind-Instrument Makers and Inventors</i> (London: Tony Bingham 1993). Young, Phillip T. (1993) <i>4900 Historical Woodwind Instruments</i> (London: Tony Bingham), p.XXXIII.

Data by Stefaan Verdegem, Koninklijk Conservatorium Brussel, 2015.