

Missenharter Cornets

New York City & Philadelphia

1874 The first cornets produced in New York City by Missenharter are said to have started in 1874 with serial number 5000. These are marked with awards from London (1862) and Paris (1867). These are marked, "1st Class."

#5420 from 1875 in Bb



1875 #5462 (#1&2 at right)

1876 Missenharter wins an award in Philadelphia in December.

#5512 from 1877 in Eb



1877 Missenharter wins an award at the American Institute.

1877 #5564 with American Institute award (#3 at right). Now a dual water key design. The fixed lead pipe might be a later alteration.

1878 #5618 (#4) with San Francisco award added from 1878.



1878 #5643 with a single water key design (below). This follows a common design by Besson and has an added inscription for "S.R. Leland & Co. Agents" in Worcester, MA.



1878 Missenharter ad at top right.

1878 #5692 following a design by Courtois.



1878 #5731 with a new inlet design.



1878 #5736 (#2 & 3 at right). Kohler & Chase, agents in San Francisco, CA.

1878 #5755 with Leland & Co. agents marking (#4 & 5).



1878 #5784 in Bb



1878 #5824 in Bb



1878 #5851 in Bb (#1-4 at right).

1878 #5862 in Bb



1880 #6350 in Bb (#5).

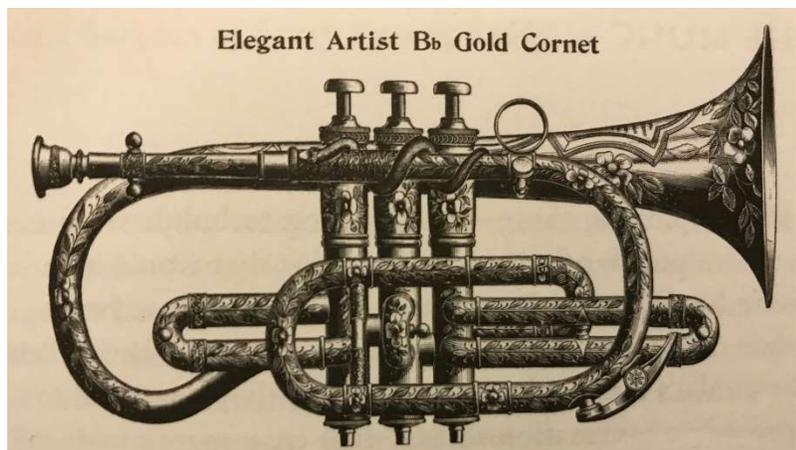
1880 #6387 in Bb with added inscription for Bowker, agent in Worcester, MA.



1880 #6391 in Bb from the Missenharter estate (below and #1 & 2 at right).



Undated ad showing one of these top Artist models.



1880 #6448 in Bb (#3 at right).

1880 #6520 in Bb (#4).

1880 #6631 in Bb (#5; bell #1 next page).



1881 #6811 in Eb from Faust collection.



1882 #7004 in Bb



1882 #7102 in Bb with marking for S.R. Leland & Co., agents (below & #2 & 3 at right).



1882 #7191 in Eb



1883 #7245 in Bb with marking for Kohler & Chase, agents.



1885 #7533 in Bb (#1 at right).

1886 #7653 in Bb (#2).

1887 #7814 in Eb (#3 & 4).

1887 #7874 in Bb. Charles Missenharter Jr's personal cornet (below and #5 & 6 at right).



1888 #8231 in Bb with amazing engraving (below and #1 & 2).



1888 #8233 in Bb



1888 #8251 in Bb (below & #3).



1888 #8280 in Bb (#4).



1889 #8378 in Bb in the Met Museum (below and #1 & 2).



1891 #8501 in Bb that belonged to Charles Jr (below & #3).



1891 Harry Coleman of Philadelphia buys the Misenharter company in August and keeps Charles on to supervise production.

1892 Coleman moves the factory to Philadelphia in October at around serial number 8700.

1893 Coleman hires Jean Vivien to supervise at the factory. Vivien may have been the designer of the “telescope” valve used in the early cornets made at Philadelphia. Vivien formerly worked for JW Pepper. At this time, they also start to use the “Excelsior” name on all instruments.

1893 #9027 using the telescope design (below & #4).



1893 #9034 in Bb (below & #1; author's photos)



1893 #9113 in Bb with an older style design for the ports (below and #2 & 3 at right; author's photos).



1893 #9451 in Bb using the telescope design (below & #4).



1893 Missenharter wins an award at Chicago in October and starts adding this to the bell inscription around #9600.

1895 Coleman dies and Walter Lewis is brought in to supervise the factory.

1900 #10734 in Bb with the telescope design (below & #1).



1903 #11031 in Bb with the telescope design (below and #2 & 3).



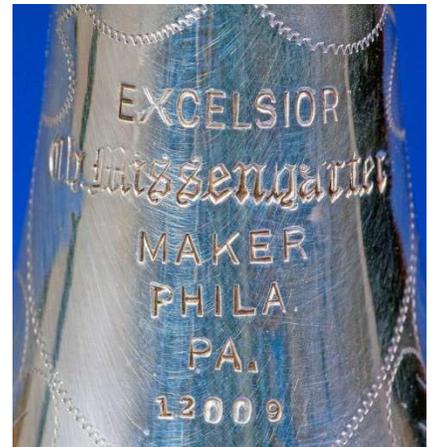
1903 #11036 in Bb (below & #4).



1909 #11669 in Bb with the telescope design (below & #1).

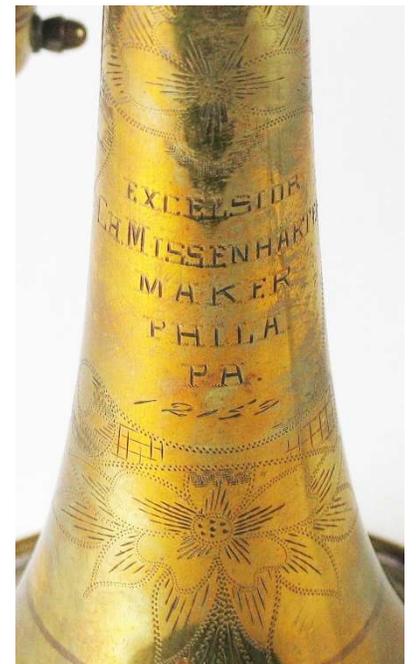


1910 #11735 in Bb with fixed lead pipe (below).



1912 Carl Fischer now owns the Coleman store at 228 N 9th.

1913 #12009 in Bb with "Pat. July 1910" on the valves for a Blessing design. These were probably a stencil horns made by Blessing (below & #2).



1914 #12159 in Bb with same Blessing patent (below & #3).



- 1918 Carl Fischer still operates the store at 228 N 9th (center building at right).
- 1919 Carl Fischer is now gone from Philadelphia.
- 1920 Fischer is still selling the Missenharter Excelsior line of band instruments but their source is unknown. Trumpets from this time still use the Blessing patent so perhaps made by them.
- 1925 Fischer ad shows them selling Missenharter and Besson cornets. No examples have been found.

Charles Missenharter #2 at right.

