

Instrument Hot List
Revised July, 2017

Prologue

It is astonishing how many firms nowadays make oboes, oboes d'amore, English horns, and bass oboes of sublime quality. I have listed below some of my favorite instruments at the moment.

This list is organized in approximate order of preference, though subject to change at a moment's notice.

New piccolo oboes (oboes musette):

Patricola

New oboes:

Hiniker any model

Puchner (especially Violetwood)

Buglheroni "Opera" model (especially Violetwood)

Howarth LXV & S5XL models (especially Cocobolo)

Moennig "Albrecht Mayer" model

Covey (especially Honduran Rosewood)

Bulgheroni "MUSA" model (especially Violetwood)

Laubin

Marigaux "Altuglas"

Fox "Sayen" model

Loree “B Series Copy” (with polymer sleeve in upper joint)
Rigoutat model J
Josef GS-2 (the “top of the line” model)
Fossati especially “MB” model in exotic wood
Buffet - “Orfeo” and “Virtuoso” models
Yamaha 831 the new design, oboes made after May, 2017

New oboes d'amore:

Puchner
Howarth, Loree, Bulgheroni MUSA, Moennig (tied)
Bulgheroni, Fossati, Marigaux (tied)

New English horns:

Puchner
Howarth (may wish to try with Hiniker bocals) & Rigoutat
& Loree & Marigaux & Moennig “Platinum” (now called
“Richard Wagner” model) & Fossati (“Soloiste” model in
Rosewood) & Josef model GS-2, Fox Maplewood – all tied

New bass oboes:

Rigoutat (try with Loree or Hiniker bocals)
Loree (try with Hiniker bocal)

Student/Intermediate:

Bulgheroni FB091

Howarth

Fox models 330, 300

Rigoutat REIC

Used oboes:

Hiniker -any!

Puchner

Loree B, C, early to mid D, mid-late H, & all of the I series

Laubin any after serial number AL128

Bulgheroni “Opera” model

Howarth S5XL (especially Cocobolo)

Decker (rare)

Kreul, Kreul/Mirafone, Kreul/Gordet and Kreul stencils

Covey oboes made after 2011

Marigaux mid 1990s, if not cracked

Yamaha model 841 prefer sleeved version

Chauvet BW series especially c. #BW100 – c. #BW330

Rigoutat 1980s (before “Evolution” [avoid] & “Symphony” [avoid] models), and the “Expression” model

Lym

Jarde'

Used oboes d'amore:

*Loree, Puchner, Howarth
Bulgheroni, Fossati, Moennig, Marigaux*

Used English horns:

Puchner

*Loree Especially B through D series, though just about any
made post 1910. Be especially careful when
assessing instruments made in the E, F, and G series*

*Laubin especially "Laubin/Malerne" (pre-mid 1976)
and Laubin English horns made after c. 1990*

Chauvet BW series

Howarth S5, S5 XL

Marigaux

Josef- late model instruments

Kreul, Kreul/Gordet, Kreul/Mirafone & other Kreul stencils

Malerne, Malerne/Marigaux and a myriad of stencils

Rigoutat

Chauvet AC series

Orsi & Orsi stencils ("V. Barcone," "Royal," etc.)

Cabart & Cabart stencils ("Noblet," Mirafone/Cabart, etc.)

Bass Oboes:

Rigoutat try with Loree bocals...

Loree (especially examples made in the 1920s-1930s)

Student oboes:

Kreul

Bulgheroni model FB091

Fox models 330,300

Rigoutat REIC