

To
Mr. Andy La Torre

July 13, 2001

From
Paul Tadeushuk

As promised, enclosed are photos of my completed Marimba. Due to the size, I chose to build a three octave instead of the four octave as described in the plans I was able to obtain from you. The costs for material was \$400.00 I used PVC pipe instead of aluminum tubing to keep the cost down

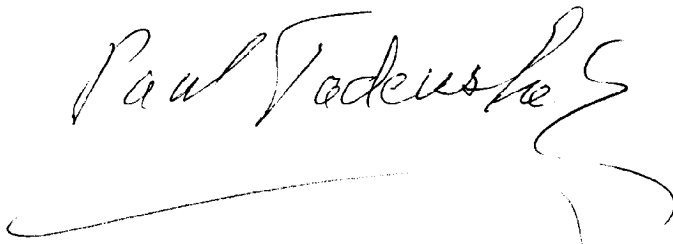
which was quite a big savings. No detail was forthcoming to secure the cord supporting the keys. Springs

and rubber bands did not work against the perils of HUMIDITY, causing the cord to expand and allowing the keys to sag and touch the frame or other keys. Being I have built guitars before, I used Grover tunings machines to adjust the tension on the cords supporting the keys to compensate for humidity. As you see in the photo, the cord adjustment is made at the high end of the keys and are easily accessable. Being Brazilian rosewood is no longer available, I used Honduras rosewood which gives a mellow sound. It was a nice project in which I enjoyed building.

I have no idea as to what a unit like this is worth. Do you???

Thanks again for the plans.

Paul Tadeushuk

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Tadeushuk". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the left and then curves back under the name.

Hi Andy;

I was glad to hear you and your friend enjoyed the tape and hoped you might of learned something from it,amateurish as it was.

To answer your questions--

1--To paint the resonators, using rubber gloves, I wiped the PVC pipe with lacquer thinners to cut the sheen,let dry and then spray painted with Rust Oleum Metallic Finish. Appears to hold up very well.

2--As far as I can detect. the node area on the keys are not that critical as compared to the length and undercutting of the wood keys. Also critical is the length of the closed resonator bottom, (the length of the air column) Going by the angle or degree of the frame dictates where the nodes are, and that would be where the string passes thru the keys. Don't deviate from the plan measurements and you can't go wrong.

3--Viewing the tape with others, I have no problem with that, that is not to be viewed on the Internet. Though I don't think you meant that.

I have four pages of tuning marimba resonators by REBECCA KITE in which I will be mailing to you. It's interesting reading. In the event you do not have this article, I believe you can get something from it.

The writers Webb site is at the bottom of the fourth page.

Enjoy

Paul



