

The Loudspeaker

1926 – Majestic BG

Categoria/category: Altifalante de Corneta /

Horn Loudspeaker

Fabricante / Maker: Grigsby-Grunow - Hinds

Modelo / Model: BG, WG-10. Princípio / Principle: Corneta / Horn.

Formato / Shape: Modelo de mesa / Tablemodel.

Motor / Driver: Eletroíman e diafragma de aço / Electromagnet

and steel diafragm.

Materiais / Materials: Aço, latão, nitrato de celeulose (piralina) /

Steel, brass, celulose nitrate (pyraline).

Produzido / Produced: 1926.

Dimensões / Dimensions: $320 \times 445 \times 320 \text{ mm}$; Horn $\emptyset = 320 \text{ mm}$.

Peso: / Weight: 1,2 kg

Impedância / Impedance: 1150 Ω.

Nota / Note: Este altifalante é um dos mais bonitos produzidos na década de 1920; é extremamente raro, raridade talvez ligada à fraca penetração que teve no mercado e aos sucessivos insucessos comerciais da empresa que o produzia /

This speaker is one of the most beautiful produced in the 1920s; it is extremely rare; a rarity perhaps linked to the weak penetration it had in the market and to the successive commercial failures of the company that produced it.





História / History:

- 1. A Grigsby-Grunow–Hinds Co. was founded in 1921 in Chicago, USA. The first devices manufactured were AC-DC converters to power tube radios; they appeared in the market around 1925 and adopted the brand name Majestic.
- 2. In 1925 the company produced its only loudspeaker, Majestic BG, using a synthetic material based on <u>cellulose nitrate</u> (explosive material) that was passivated by introducing various substances. The material is called pyraline and was the first moldable synthetic plastic, but it is highly flammable and has a low melting point of around 75 °C.
- 3. Cellulose nitrate can be transparent and with the addition of various substances it can acquire various colours. It produces very beautiful objects with a variety of colours in the same piece, like the colors present in this loudspeaker.
- 4. The company had several bankruptcies, and was refounded with slightly different names, always resurrecting the Majestic brand.
- 5. Grigsby-Grunow was licensed on October 3, 1929 to manufacture electronic valves also designated under the Majestic brand.
- 6. Around 1933 the original company went bankrupt, but was succeeded by two companies: Majestic Radio and Television Corporation, which continued the Majestic name, and General Household Utilities, which continued under the Grunow name.