

# EXCELLENCE

CLARINETS



**BUFFET  
CRAMPON**  
PARIS







# RHAPSODY FOR TALENTS

## UNIQUE KNOW-HOW

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Buffet Crampon is firmly-fixed, through its history and its name, in the tradition of the manufacture of top of the range wind instruments. Since 1825 the brand has developed around a know-how of exceptional instrument manufacture. This heritage remains the guarantee of recognition of our products “Made in France” and “Made in Germany”.

This know-how is complex and valuable because it takes a long time to acquire and requires dedication and patience to pass on. At Buffet Crampon, we frequently measure the training period in years. It involves the recruiting of young apprentices who are passionate about the instrument-making profession, ensuring we have the means to pass on to them the taste for the exceptional work and putting them to work with experienced people so that they can gradually acquire and develop the apprenticeship received. This know-how allows the identity and memory of all the instruments to be forged.

Thus for nearly 200 years, musicians have continued to find artistic excellence and the passion of music with Buffet Crampon instruments. In a collusive and intuitive dialogue with the most renowned artists, the brand's ambition is to combine tradition with modernity, know-how with creation, history with innovation, in order to offer wind instruments of reference.





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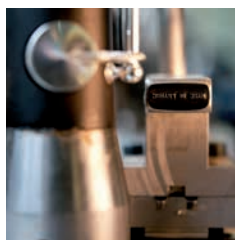
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*Working closely with musicians at the highest  
level of tradition and quality.*

# TRADITIONS AND VALUES

## ARTISTIC EXCELLENCE

**FOUNDED IN 1825, AT LE PASSAGE DU GRAND CERF IN PARIS AND INSTALLED AT MANTES-LA-VILLE SINCE 1850, BUFFET CRAMPON IS THE MOST REPUTED WIND INSTRUMENT MANUFACTURER IN THE WHOLE WORLD.**

Instrument manufacture is a skilful combination of manual operations requiring numerous hours working on wood and metal, and hundreds of automatic or semi-mechanised procedures on ultra-high performance machines in order to ensure an irreproachable and constant quality level.

Wood turner, sander, driller, key maker, welder, tester... each instrument passes through the expert hands of several dozen tradesmen.

In the secrecy of the workshops, from generation to generation the master instrument makers have learned the precision of each process necessary to manufacture instruments of reference. This manual work gives a soul to each one of the Buffet Crampon clarinets, bass clarinets, saxophones, oboes and bassoons.

Before being despatched to the four corners of the earth, all our instruments, whether they be student or professional, are evaluated and tested in order to check their unique sound quality and the exceptional roundness of their tone. If our testers (all excellent professional musicians) aren't satisfied with the sound purity or the homogeneity of an instrument, then that instrument will be reworked until total satisfaction is obtained, or it will be destroyed.

The brand is fortunate enough to have the trust of the greatest soloists and rostrums in the whole world. This artistic excellence is a great strength and a source of immense pride. This link, so essential between musicians and the work of instrument makers, allows permanent questioning, constant innovation, in order to create "wind instruments of reference".







Buffet Crampon employees in Mantes-la-ville in 1930.

## A SHORT HISTORY OF BORES\*

It is clear from simply uttering the word “flute” in French and in English that the national sonorities are distinct.

If by pronouncing the same word we can produce such different effects, why would it be any different when we play a musical instrument?

In order to respond to the needs of musicians from one continent to another, Buffet Crampon has developed two major families of bores and several models of clarinets.

This heritage has endured over the decades. It was initiated by Robert Carrée, first an instrument maker and then Technical Director of Buffet Crampon.

In 1950 Robert Carrée created the R13 family of clarinet. The R13 has a poly-cylindrical bore giving it a warmth and focus that are extraordinary. It has become the most widely-played clarinet in history and continues to be the clarinet that provides the standard of reference today in the United States. In 1975, to celebrate Buffet Crampon’s 150th anniversary, working with the clarinetist Jacques Lancelot, Robert Carrée developed a slightly different bore while keeping a round, precise timbre. This new family of clarinets bears the initials RC in honour of its inventor.



Robert Carrée

### R13 Family

- R13 (1955)
- R13 Prestige (1985)
- Festival (1987)
- Vintage (1996)
- Tosca (2003)

### RC Family

- RC (1975)
- RC Prestige (1976)

For the bass clarinet, the parentage is more recent; nevertheless both bores are a standard of reference, and have earned their stripes for clarinetists: the traditional bore of 1964 and the bore created in 1997, attributed to the talented instrument maker René Lesieux who, with the assistance of the clarinetist of France’s National Orchestra, Jean Marc Volta, have repositioned the bass clarinet as a solo instrument that stands on its own.

\* The bore is the interior diameter of the clarinet





BUFFET CRAMPON'S CLARINETS BENEFIT FROM OUR EXEMPLARY SAVOIR-FAIRE IN THE TREATMENT OF THE WOOD USED TO MAKE THEM, WHICH INTEGRATES BOTH TRADITIONAL AND MODERN TECHNIQUES.

BUFFET CRAMPON OFFERS A WIDE SELECTION OF CLARINETS AND BASS CLARINETS IN TRADITIONAL GRENADILLA WOOD (*Dalbergia Melanoxylon*) OR IN THE Green LinE COMPOSITE MATERIALS.

# THE MUSIC TREE

## THE WOOD

African black wood (*Dalbergia Melanoxylon*), generally known as “Grenadilla”, or M’Pingo in Swahili, is the wood of choice today for the manufacture of most wind instruments. This very hard wood, which is so dense that it does not float, lends itself well to turning, does not crack or split and is resistant to humidity. Once it is finished and polished, its aspect is superb. The tree is a member of the Papilionoideae family - the Latin name is *Dalbergia Melanoxylon* – which gives the grenadilla its varied hues, from dark violet to a purplish brown.

Due to its irregular growth, finding a straight vein in the wood that is appropriate for the manufacture of the instruments is extremely hard. The “music tree” grows mainly in the African savannah, primarily in Mozambique and Tanzania. This tree takes a full eighty years to reach its average size of nine meters, and the wood requires several more years for the drying and treatment processes before it can be used.



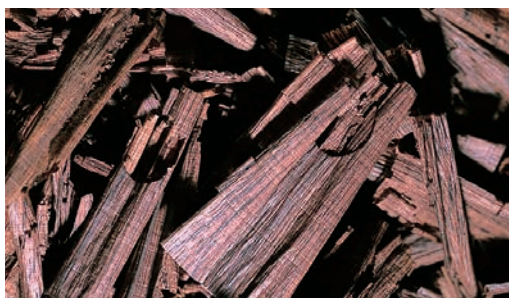
It is therefore not surprising that African grenadilla wood (*Dalbergia Melanoxylon*) is considered a precious resource. Well aware of the threat to its survival by the manufacture of musical instruments, Buffet Crampon has developed a composite material made of reconstituted ebony from Mozambique (*Dalbergia Melanoxylon*), also called grenadilla, which is a by-product of wood recycled from the production.

Green LinE is an international trade mark filed in 1994 by Buffet Crampon and still protected. It permits the conservation of 100% of the acoustic properties of traditional instruments while ensuring an incontestable reliability and longevity, as it does not crack or split when it suffers a climactic change, which is a great source of concern to clarinetists and oboists. Green LinE (*Dalbergia Melanoxylon composite*) provides the instrument bore with a dimensional consistency that is not vulnerable to the test of time.



SINCE 1850, BUFFET CRAMPON HAS PRODUCED ITS PROFESSIONAL AND INTERMEDIARY CLARINETS IN A SMALL CITY WEST OF PARIS. THE SKILLED TRADESMEN AND THE INDUSTRIAL ELEMENTS OF THE MANUFACTURING PLANT HAVE BEEN AWARDED THE LABEL “ENTREPRISE DU PATRIMOINE VIVANT” [A LIVING HERITAGE COMPANY] BY THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT. THIS LABEL REPRESENTS EXCELLENCE IN FRENCH SAVOIR-FAIRE. THIS DISTINCTION IS CONFERRED UPON THE EMPLOYEES AND THE STAFF OF OUR MANUFACTURING UNIT.

# ART & EXCELLENCE



## Wood turner

He fashions and blanks the forms, and then the bodies of the instruments. He receives the grenadilla wood (*Dalbergia Melanoxylon*) in a near-raw state, in which it is barely seasoned and dry. He cuts away the grenadilla-coloured chips and brings out the first veins of a piece of wood that has been chosen and will be as carefully matched. Attentive, meticulous, he has the artist's touch and the fitter's eye.



## Sander

This workman's skill lies in his touch. An essential link in a chain of quality workmanship, the sander is selected for his dexterity, and adapts each gesture to each part of the instrument he is working on; he matches the colours, harmonizes the aspect of the wood, knows how to work around any unevenness in the wood, and prepares the pieces for finishing. From sand paper to polishing compounds, his is a master stroke.



## Post driller

Drilling, forming, cutting the bore— each is an essential step in the preparation of the assembly of the instruments.

Each of these phases is carried out on a microscopic level, with a watchmaker's agility and precision.

\* French label: Living Heritage Company



# PERTISE



## ***Bore driller***

This artist acts as a midwife to the acoustics of the instruments, as he is the one who drills into the heart of the grenadilla wood. His work requires rigour and close attention to detail. His experience and expertise is unique, as he is trained for three years by his more experienced colleagues to recreate the richness of Buffet Crampon's individual sound. His secret lies in his tools and his careful gestures.



## ***Key makers***

Skilled dexterity and patience are vital to the forging and the manipulation of small parts. The key maker is meticulous – he files, trims, drills, brushes and checks the quality of each part. He handles pure metals and alloys in their raw state, and the treatment and finishing work of the keys will depend on the quality of his work.



## ***Welder***

Various welding techniques are used (welding torch or blow pipe, oven, induction), each of which is a true specialization. The life span of the instrument's keys will depend on the precision of the welder's work and his work ethic. The welder is concentrated and particularly attentive, as he works with high temperatures.

*“Our craft, the making of high quality instruments,  
is a vocation guided by our savoir-faire, the work of artists.  
Our greatest asset is our ability to pass this craftsman’s  
heritage down to future generations.”*



## ***Finisher***

The instrument takes on its definitive form at this phase of the work. The finisher assembles the keys, rings, welding, correspondences, cadences, levers, springs...the keys at last begin to be referred to as notes. The men and women who finish the instruments carry out this extraordinary work with elegance and calm.



## ***Tester***

All of the wind instruments are tested by Buffet Crampon's own expert. His ear is professional and his dexterity precise. He carefully checks each element of the instrument – the wood, metal, bore, etc.

He verifies the accuracy and proper functioning of the mechanical elements of each instrument. He makes any adjustments necessary and chooses the bell that is best adapted to the instrument. His workshop resonates with arpeggios, glissandos and solos. An ambiance reigns here that one finds more often backstage at concerts.



## ***The other crafts***

Other skills, gestures and attentions are involved in the manufacture of our instruments. Each of these workers has as much expertise as those described above – designers, tool smiths, tuners, adjusters, metal smiths, buffers, assemblers, silversmiths, key mounters, pad setters, markers, quality control specialists, acoustics specialists, researchers. Behind all of these trades and skills lies the historic brand of nearly two hundred years, but it is the men and women, themselves, deeply invested in the quality and transmission of their craft, who preserve and pass on our exceptional savoir-faire.







# THE ART OF THE GESTURE



*The tradition of free-blowing  
instruments homogenous  
in every register.*

# DIVINE

## TRADITION AND TECHNOLOGY

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Research and development is both a rigorous and creative process. In collaboration with our workshops and internationally renowned clarinetists, Paul Meyer worked on the research project for developing new acoustics, resulting in the Divine clarinet.

The word 'divine' conjures such qualities as beauty, splendour and awe; a level of perfection. It is a word of high praise with connotations of purity and light, with a touch of femininity.

This model benefits from having the same hole placement as the Tosca model which allows for better intonation in every register.

The improved bore favors flexible register-crossing and freer blowing during the most demanding pieces. The Divine clarinet comes with two barrels - 65mm (442hz) and 66mm (440hz) – which fit with both the Bb and the A model.

The Divine is made of grenadilla wood (*Dalbergia Melanoxylon*) with specific upper joint Green LinE (*Dalbergia Melanoxylon composite*) tone-hole slots eliminating air leaks on tone-holes most prone to crack.

The carbon wire (a Buffet Crampon patent), which replaces the metal rings, makes the clarinet 60 grams lighter and thus contributes to its exceptional balance with greater vibration and freer blowing.

As with the Tosca model, the Divine clarinets are equipped with a low F correction key. New keywork and spatulas enhance the clarinet's ergonomics without destabilizing the musician's capabilities.

Whereas the Tosca clarinet was the R13 bore's top range model, the Divine features the Buffet Crampon RC bore's latest evolution.

This new range of clarinet represents a major step forward in Buffet Crampon's history, by fusing technical expertise with unparalleled craftsmanship in French wind instrument manufacturing.





## TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS

**Key:** Bb, A, / **Pitch:** 440/442 Hz

### Features:

#### Body:

- Natural African blackwood (*Dalbergia Melanoxylon*)
- Poly-cylindrical bore according to the Buffet Crampon method
- Green LinE (*Dalbergia Melanoxylon* composite) tones holes slots on the upper joint
- Metal-capped tenons
- Carbon wire on barrel, lower joint and bell
- Synthetic cork on tenon, no lubrication necessary
- Raised C# - G# tone hole (A only)
- Delivered with 2 barrels:  
Bb: 66 and 65mm - A: 65 and 64mm

#### Keywork:

- 19 keys and 6 rings
- New Adjustable thumb rest
- Eb lever
- Low F correction key, low E (option)
- Silver-plated or golden plated finishes
- Highly reliable keywork
- Metal O-ring pins
- Blue steel springs

#### Pads:

- Combination of GT pads (100 % waterproof and breathable) and natural cork pads.

#### Case:

- Compact style, hi-tech, shell, leather lidb



*Divine*  
*wine*

## REFERENCES

### DIVINE

**Bb:** BC1160L

**A:** BC1260L

# LÉGENDE

## LÉGENDE

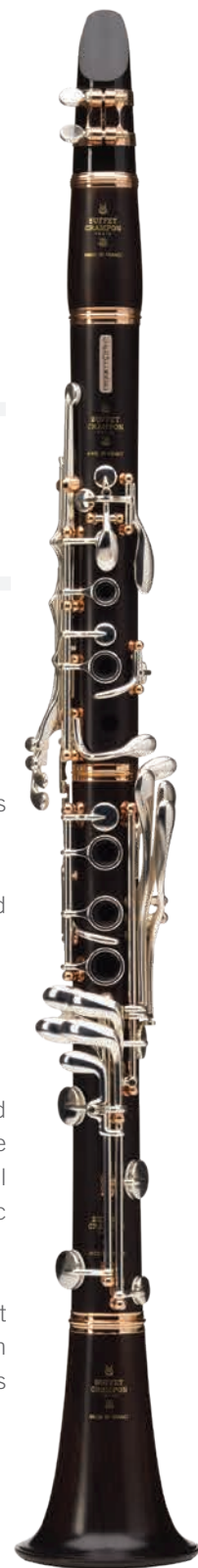
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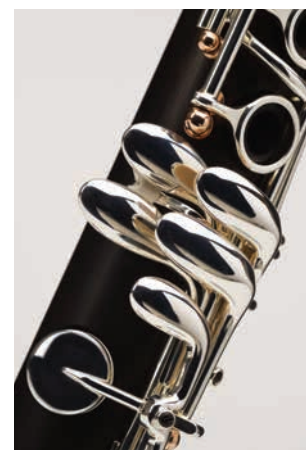
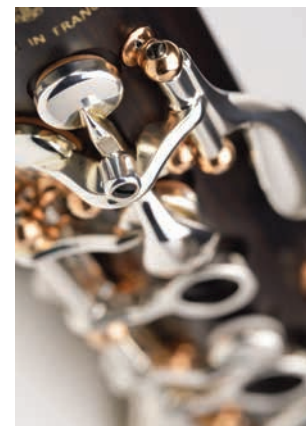
This new clarinet is also the result of these developments in methodology and touts the same virtues as its high-end counterparts, including:

- metal-capped tenons, for an enduring union between upper and lower joints
- GreenLinE (*Dalbergia Melanoxyloncomposite*) tone hole slots, ensuring an air-tight closure and flawless sound while eliminating the risk of cracking
- a low F correction key to enhance the sound in this characteristic scale
- ergonomic rings for a more comfortable and intuitive feel (LÉGENDE exclusively)
- natural wood, specially selected and honed for a perfect resonance

The LÉGENDE will surprise players with its accurate pitch and immediate response. Its precise and centred tone, characteristic of this new bore concept, brings out a whole spectrum of sound, encompassing the brightest to softest of colouring. Its intuitive handling allows the musician the utmost freedom of musical and acoustical expression. Its precise and reliable play is ideal for clarinet players with very eclectic demands.

It is also the arrival of a whole new line that, for the first time, proposes aesthetic options, a clarinet that comes in rose gold and silver - a new Golden Age - as was done for instruments made during our 190th anniversary. An original medallion in gold plate puts a finishing touch on this clarinet, distinguishing it as a unique and notable instrument.





## TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS

**Keys:** Bb, A / **Pitch:** 440/442 Hz

### Features:

#### Body:

- Natural grenadilla wood (*Dalbergia Melanoxylon*) or Green LinE (*Dalbergia Melanoxylon composite*)
- Buffet Crampon cylindrical bore
- Green LinE tones holes slots on the upper joint
- Metal-capped tenons
- Raised C#-G# tone hole (A only)
- Delivered with 2 barrels:  
Bb: 66 and 65mm - A: 65 and 64mm

#### Keywork:

- 19 keys and 6 rings
- Adjustable thumbrest
- Eb lever
- Low f correction, low E (option)
- Silver plated and gold plated
- Highly reliable keywork
- Metal O-ring pins
- Blue steel springs

#### Pads:

- Combination of GT pads (100% waterproof and breathable) and natural cork pads

#### Case:

- LÉGENDE finish: high tech, shell, brown leather
- Single or double (Bb and A clarinets)
- Case cover for LÉGENDE case

## REFERENCES

### LÉGENDE

**Bb:** BC1156L / Green LinE BC1156GL

**A:** BC1256L / Green LinE BC1256GL

# TOSCA



## THE DEMAND FOR PERFECTION

Fortified by its elegance and incomparable style, the Tosca clarinet, designed by Michel Arrignon, is the fruit of extensive experience and innovation. One of Buffet Crampon's greatest strengths is its capacity for developing new instruments in close cooperation with the best-known musicians of the French school of wind instruments. Musicians we have worked with include Romain Guyot, Pascal Moraguès, Guy Deplus.

Endowed with rich harmony and a unique sonority, the Tosca clarinet's timbre and fullness are exceptional. Its ease of response and flexibility and its high level of comfort are qualities that distinguish it from other clarinets, and that constitute the very essence of this clarinet, one of the R13 line.

It is available in Bb, A and Eb, in grenadilla wood or in the Green LinE composite material.



*The projection and fullness  
of a perfect sound for a clarinet  
that is at the peak of its art*



## TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS

**Key:** Bb, A, Eb / **Pitch:** 440/442 Hz

### Features:

#### Body:

- Natural African blackwood (*Dalbergia Melanoxylon*) or in Green LinE (*Dalbergia Melanoxylon composite*)
- Poly-cylindrical bore according to the Buffet Crampon method
- Metal-capped tenons
- Raised C# - G# tone hole (A only)
- Delivered with 2 barrels (Bb: 66 and 65 mm / A: 65 and 64mm / Eb: 41,5 and 40,5 mm)

#### Keywork:

- 19 keys and 6 rings
- Adjustable thumb rest
- Eb lever
- Low F correction key, low E (option)
- Silver-plated finish
- Highly reliable keywork
- Blue steel springs

#### Pads:

- Combination of GT pads (100 % waterproof and breathable) and natural cork pads.

#### Case:

- Special Tosca design

## REFERENCES

### TOSCA

**Bb:** BC1150L / Green LinE BC1150GL

**A:** BC1250L / Green LinE BC1250GL

**Eb:** BC1550 / Green LinE BC1550GL





# TRADITION

## SOUND AT ITS PUREST LEVEL

2019 sees the TRADITION clarinet donning a new dress, worthy of the resounding success generated by her big sister, LEGENDE, after her public debut in 2017.

“Sound at its purest level” has become the motto of this new family of cylindrical bores, descended from the BC20, a clarinet iconic of the brand. The woody, well-centred tone conquered the world, inspiring us to innovate, transform and reinvent ourselves.

This new opus offers enhanced technical characteristics borrowed directly from the high-range model, LEGENDE, with its metal tenon caps and a low F correction key while preserving the identical acoustic attributes of the first version. Its new vertical medallion lends an elegance befitting a member of this new bore family. The natural, unstained buffed wood that make this clarinet, as well as its traditionally crafted keywork, all done in the workshops in Mantes la Ville, France, are what make this an exceptional professional clarinet, one that both literally and figuratively shines.

We are proud to present TRADITION and LEGENDE as professional options that are innovative while respecting the traditional craftsmanship handed down over generations by the master woodwind makers who laid the foundations of our success.



## TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS

**Keys:** Bb, A / **Pitch:** 440/442 Hz

### Features:

#### Body:

- African blackwood (*Dalbergia Melanoxylon*)
- Cylindrical bore
- Delivered with 2 barrels (Bb: 66 and 65 mm / A: 66 and 64 mm)

#### Keywork:

- 19 keys, 6 rings
- Low F correction
- Eb left hand lever
- Adjustable thumb rest
- Silver plated or Nickel plated keywork
- Blue steel springs

#### Pads:

- GT- leather and natural cork

#### Case:

- Single (Bb) or double (Bb and A), dark naugahyde, new generation pochette style

## REFERENCES

### Bb

**Nickel:** BC1116LN-5

**Silver:** BC1116LN-2

### A

**Nickel:** BC1216LN-5

**Silver:** BC1216LN-2



BUFFET CRAMPON'S PRESTIGE LINE DATES BACK TO 1976. ITS STANDARD OF QUALITY IS SOUGHT AFTER AND VALUED WORLDWIDE. THE QUALITY OF THE WOOD, THE PRECISION OF THE MECHANICS AND THE EXTENSIVE SAVOIR-FAIRE, ALL OF WHICH ARE ESSENTIALLY EFFECTED MANUALLY BY BUFFET CRAMPON'S INSTRUMENT MAKERS, CONTRIBUTE TO THIS LINE OF CLARINETS, WHICH IS A STANDARD OF REFERENCE FOR PROFESSIONAL MUSICIANS.

## RC & R13 PRESTIGE



### THE DEMAND OF AN ENTIRE LINE OF INSTRUMENTS

The grenadilla wood is chosen with great care for its acoustic and aesthetic qualities. The wood is polished with care and retains its natural colour. The mechanical elements are prepared and finished with extreme precision: internal polishing of the tone holes is done in line with Buffet Crampon's high standards, developed with their expertise over the decades.

The individual parts are set and protected by metal rings in order to limit any risk of splitting or cracking. The keys in maillechort (an alloy of copper, zinc and nickel) are cold-forged, and are copper and silver plated. The mechanical elements are carefully assembled and adjusted by expert technicians.

### RC PRESTIGE

The RC clarinet was born of the bore perfected by Robert Carrée in 1975 and developed by Jacques Lancelot and Guy Deplus. It is characterized by a pure and sweet sound. The interior profile specific to its bell is unique to this clarinet. It plays a key role in the focus and warmth of its sound.

### R13 PRESTIGE

Developed in 1985 by Robert Carrée, this clarinet is one of the members of the R13 bore family. Highly flexible in all registers and powerful, it is well-adapted to all situations and all styles.



RC Prestige bell





metal-capped tenons



*The clarinet provides a conduit  
for the expression of the most poetic  
ideas and emotions...*

## TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS

**Key:** Bb, A, / **Pitch:** 440/442 Hz - **Pitch R13 PRESTIGE:** 440 Hz

### Features:

#### Body:

- Natural African blackwood (*Dalbergia Melanoxylon*) or in Green LinE (*Dalbergia Melanoxylon composite*)
- Metal-capped tenons
- Poly-cylindrical bore according to the Buffet Crampon method
- RC Prestige: delivered with 2 barrels  
Bb: 66 and 65mm - A: 64 and 65mm

#### Keywork:

- 18 keys, 6 rings (Bb, A)
- Eb lever left hand
- RC Prestige: Eb lever left hand with adjustment screw
- Adjustable thumb rest
- Forged keys, copper plated then silver plated according to the Buffet Crampon method
- Metal blue steel springs for ease and accuracy of key movement

#### Pads:

- RC Prestige: GT pads and cork pad (register key)
- R13 Prestige: Leather and natural cork

#### Case:

- Leather

## REFERENCES

### RC PRESTIGE

**Bb:** BC1108L / Green LinE BC1108GL  
**A:** BC1208L

### R13 PRESTIGE

**Bb:** BC1133L  
**A:** BC1233L



THE FESTIVAL AND VINTAGE CLARINETS ARE AFFILIATED WITH THE RICH AND POWERFUL SOUND QUALITY OF THE R13 BORE FAMILY. EACH DEVELOPS ITS OWN INDIVIDUAL SOUND AND AMPLITUDE. THEY HAVE ALL OF THE FEATURES OF THE PRESTIGE LINE.

# FESTIVAL & VINTAGE

## FESTIVAL: THE MUSICIANS' REQUIREMENTS

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Designed in 1987 with the advice of three artists that are well-known all over the world- Jacques Lancelot, Guy Deplus and Michel Arrignon - the Festival clarinet meets the requirements of today's musicians, soloists and teachers interpreting the widest possible repertoire of works, from Mozart to Boulez.

## VINTAGE: THE AMERICAN SOUND OF THE 1950S

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The Vintage clarinet was developed and perfected by René Lesieux in 1996. René Lesieux was a Master instrument maker with Buffet Crampon for more than 40 years. The Vintage, as its name implies, brings to mind the influences and colours of the 1950s.

Today it is widely appreciated for its fluid and focused tone, and its homogeneity and ease of response.

The Vintage in A has a specific bore that provides unrivalled suppleness and remarkable accuracy in all registers, coupled with a particularly warm sound.



*The clarinet provides different tones,  
each with a distinct character.*



A Vintage: register key

## TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS

**Key:** Bb, A / **Pitch:** 440/442 Hz

**Features:**

**Body:**

- The body is in African blackwood (*Dalbergia Melanoxylon*), selected, dried and tested with care
- Festival : available in Green LinE (*Dalbergia Melanoxylon composite*)
- Poly-cylindrical bore according to the Buffet Crampon method
- Delivered with 2 barrels:  
66 and 65 mm for Festival  
66 mm for Vintage (conical and cylindrical)

**Keywork:**

- 18 keys, 6 rings (Bb, A)
- Eb lever left hand
- Forged keys, copper plated then silver plated according to the Buffet Crampon method
- Adjustable thumb rest
- Blue steel springs for ease and accuracy of key movement

**Pads:**

- 100% waterproof material (GT)

**Case:**

- Leather



## REFERENCES

**FESTIVAL**

**Bb:** BC1139L / Green LinE BC1139GL  
**A:** BC1239L / Green LinE BC1239GL

**VINTAGE**

**Bb:** BC1131LV  
**A:** BC1231LV

*Rich, expressive sounds with all the  
warmth and softness it takes to convey  
the emotion of music.*

# RC & R13



## RC: PURITY OF SOUND, SWEETNESS OF COLOUR

Of all the people who have made their mark in the history of Buffet Crampon, Robert Carrée is without doubt one of the most important. He dedicated his career to perfecting the musical instrument artistically as well as mechanically. Creator of legendary instruments such as the French bassoon and the Dynaction saxophone, he revolutionised the world of the clarinet with the development of a new line with a unique, poly-cylindrical bore.

The RC model, already the world reference, will be getting a make-over in 2014, benefitting from ten years of acoustical research and development.

The overall intonation of the instrument has been reviewed and enhanced to better adapt to the ever-increasing demands of the musician. Its warm, centred tone, projection, and its improved evenness of response and intonation will give pure satisfaction to musicians aspiring to a professional level or wanting to play the top of the line.

## R13: HARMONY AND FLEXIBILITY

This clarinet is one of Buffet Crampon's historic models. Created in 1955 by Robert Carrée, the R13 clarinet was a big hit in the United States and still meets with unprecedented success. Its tone is focused and rich, and it is powerful in all registers. Its flexibility lends itself to all repertoires: symphonies or chamber music, soloists, teachers, military bands, students or amateurs.







BC1114

BC1114GL

BC1114L

BC1214L



BC1131-5

BC1131G-5

BC1131L-2

BC1231L-2

## TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS

**Key:** Bb, A / **Pitch RC:** 440/442 Hz - **Pitch R13:** 400Hz

### Features:

#### Body:

- Carefully selected, treated, stained African Blackwood (*Dalbergia Melanoxylon*) or in Green LinE (*Dalbergia Melanoxylon composite*)
- Poly-cylindrical bore according to the Buffet Crampon method
- RC Bb: 2 barrels (65/66mm)
- RC A: 2 barrels (64/65mm)
- RC: new shaped bell

#### Keywork:

- 17 or 18 keys, 6 rings (Bb, A)
- Eb Lever left hand option
- Adjustable thumb rest enabling the use of a neck strap.
- Silver plated according to the Buffet Crampon method
- Nickel silver keywork available for R13
- Blue steel springs for ease and accuracy of key movement

#### Pads:

- RC: leather pads and cork pads (register key)
- R13: bladder pads

#### Case:

- Leather

## REFERENCES

### RC

<b>Bb:</b>	BC1114 / Green LinE	BC1114G
<b>Bb with Eb lever:</b>	BC1114L / Green LinE	BC1114GL
<b>A:</b>	BC1214	
<b>A with Eb lever:</b>	BC1214L	

### R13

<b>Bb nickel:</b>	BC1131-5 / Green LinE	BC1131G-5
<b>Bb silver:</b>	BC1131-2 / Green LinE	BC1131G-2
<b>Bb silver with Eb lever:</b>	BC1131L-2	
<b>A nickel:</b>	BC1231-5	
<b>A silver:</b>	BC1231-2 / Green LinE	BC1231G-2
<b>A silver with Eb lever:</b>	BC1231L-2	

*The little clarinets vibrate  
in a unique way, from the low  
notes right up to the high notes.*

# THE FAMILY OF LITTLE CLARINETS

## THE FAMILY OF LITTLE CLARINETS

Many 20th Century composers have used clarinets in a higher range than that of the Bb and A for their ability to stand out in an orchestra and to generate emotion.

Richard Strauss, for example, used a clarinet in D to represent the “merry prankster” in “Till Eulenspiegel”. Maurice Ravel composed for the clarinet in Eb, in “Bolero” and in “Daphne and Chloe”. The clarinet in C is often used in a complementary partnership with a clarinet in Bb or A.

Buffet Crampon has developed a complete range of clarinets. The work on the ergonomic aspects, the position of the toneholes and the rings, in particular on the Tosca Eb, come as close to the Bb sound as possible.





Eb Tosca

# LITTLE CLARINETS

## TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS

**Key:** Eb, D, C / **Pitch:** 440/442 Hz - **Pitch R13:** 440 Hz

### Features:

#### Body:

- Selected natural African blackwood (*Dalbergia Melanoxylon*) or in Green LinE (*Dalbergia Melanoxylon composite*)
- Metal-capped tenons
- Poly-cylindrical bore according to the Buffet Crampon method

#### Keywork:

- 17 keys, 6 rings (Eb, D, C)
- Adjustable thumb rest

#### Pads:

- 100% waterproof material (GT) and in double fish skin

#### Case:

- Leather

## REFERENCES

### TOSCA

**Eb:** BC1550L / Green LinE BC1550GL

### RC PRESTIGE

**D:** BC1407

**Eb:** BC1507 / Green LinE BC1507G

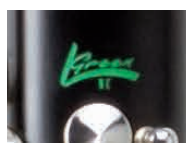
**C:** BC1607

### RC

**Eb:** BC1512

### R13

**Eb:** BC1531





BC1134C

BC1136C

# CONSERVATOIRE & E13

## IN CONCERT WITH THE MAJOR PLAYERS

Each school of music has its own instrumental character. The German school favours a full and focused woody sound, while the French school of wind instruments cultivates vigour and fluidity, and beauty in the model.

Buffet Crampon has contributed in a material way to the creation of the modern clarinet and the founding of high-quality interpretation.

It has also played a preponderant role in developing teaching methods, accompanying an illustrious line of teachers that have graduated from the best music conservatories in the world.

The Conservatoire clarinets were developed for most students who are preparing for a career as a professional musician and whose technical level has exceeded the quality of their first instrument.

Made entirely in grenadilla wood, these clarinets give these musicians their first sensations as a soloist.

## THE NAME E13 IS LEGENDARY

The name E13 is legendary for a clarinet that has never changed in 40 years.

With its origins in the BC20 – the clarinet played by Jacques Lancelot – the E13 has accompanied amateurs and advanced musicians to conservatories, music schools and wind orchestras the world over.

Made from the best pieces of Mozambican grenadilla wood and assembled in the brand's own workshops, this clarinet has all the technical characteristics of a semi-professional line: silver keywork and plating, blue steel springs, screwed-in pillars, threaded screws and natural cork lining the joints.

Already equipped with leather pads in January 2015, the E13 has now inherited the completely new bell of sister clarinet, the RC (cf. Robert Carrée), which gives more projection and brightness no matter what the range or tone. The low F key adjustment screw allows a finer control of the resulting action implemented by its lever.



*The tone of a clarinet?  
...the same as a rainbow.*



E<sup>13</sup>

## TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS

**Key:** Bb, A / **Pitch:** 440/442 Hz - **Pitch E13:** 442 Hz

### Features:

#### Body:

- Stained African blackwood (*Dalbergia Melanoxylon*)
- Metal rings and metal bell ring
- New bell for E13 models

#### Keywork:

- 17 keys, 6 rings
- 18 keys option for E13 models
- Silver plated
- Easy and accurate keywork action
- Adjustable thumb rest enabling the use of a neck strap
- Blue steel springs
- Blue steel, flat and needle springs for E13 models
- Screwed pillars

#### Pads:

- Superior quality double fish skin
- Leather cover for E13 models

#### Case:

- Leather or backpack for Conservatoire models
- Very light yet ensuring an excellent protection for E13 models

## REFERENCES

### CONSERVATOIRE

Bb 440: BC1136C

Bb 442: BC1134C

### E13

Bb: BC1102

A: BC1202

Bb with Eb lever: BC1102L



THEY SAY A BUFFET CRAMPON CLARINET'S SOUND IS RECOGNIZABLE. FULL AND WARM ARE THE ADJECTIVES MOST OFTEN USED TO DESCRIBE IT. THIS SOUND HAS BECOME A SORT OF TRADEMARK THAT IS ALSO PRESENT IN THE STUDENT INSTRUMENTS.

E12F



## E12F: THE NEW STANDARD FOR YOUNG MUSICIANS

Developed through the industrial synergy between our Research & Development arm and our production facilities based in France and Germany, the new E12F student clarinet arrived on the European market in September 2012, just in time for the musician's school year.

Its body is derived from professional models and made in Buffet Crampon's French workshops; the key assembly and quality control are carried out by our German teams in Markneukirchen.

Ease of play, reliability and accurate tuning are the main characteristics of this new Buffet Crampon clarinet.

The E12F: setting the new standard for young musicians.

## REFERENCES

**Bb:** BC2512F

**Bb with Eb lever:** BC2512FL

## TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS

**Key:** Bb / **Pitch:** 442 Hz

### Features:

#### Body:

- Unstained African Blackwood (*Dalbergia Melanoxylon*), treated and lacquered for optimal protection
- A new concept developed with Buffet Crampon expertise

#### Keywork:

- 17 keys , 6 rings
- 18 keys option
- Adjustable thumb rest enabling the use of a neck strap
- Forged keys, copper plated then silver plated according to the Buffet Crampon method
- Blue steel springs for ease and accuracy of key movement
- Screwed pillars

#### Pads:

- Leather

#### Case:

- Backpack

*The French school is characterized by a certain fluidity, a clarity of tone and its phrasing in the musical line.*



E11



## E11: THE FIRST PERFORMANCE

Free blowing, fine tuning and a high quality hand finish, with a strong heritage. Constructed by traditional methods, combining technology and experience. Manufactured by Buffet Crampon, in specially dedicated German workshops in Markneukirchen.

E11 Eb: In order to make the most of the tone of the entire range of clarinets in concert orchestras, composers are increasingly turning to the clarinet in Eb. Buffet Crampon has developed a student model of a clarinet in Eb in grenadilla wood. Its bore facilitates its ease of response, and this instrument, known as a specialized instrument, is becoming accessible to all musicians.

The E11 in C model is extremely comfortable for small hands, and therefore is an ideal instrument for younger players. Teachers recommend this clarinet as it facilitates learning embouchure. The mouthpiece is identical to the mouthpiece of a Bb clarinet. Its ergonomic design has been specially conceived for younger musicians.

## TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS

**Key:** Bb, A, Eb, C / **Pitch:** 442 Hz

### Features:

#### Body:

- Stained African Blackwood (*Dalbergia Melanoxylon*) treated and lacquered for optimal protection
- Metal bell ring (Bb and A)
- Tone holes: undercut, improving accuracy of pitch
- Barrel: Eb 42,2mm / C 46,5mm

#### Keywork:

- 17 or 18 keys, 6 rings
- Metal rings
- Fixed thumb rest (Bb and A)
- Adjustable thumb rest (Eb and C)
- Silverplated or nickelplated keywork
- Blue steel springs for ease and accuracy of key movement

#### Pads:

- Bladder

## REFERENCES

### Bb

**Silver:** BC2501-2

**Silver with Eb lever:** BC2501L-2

**Nickel:** BC2501N-5

**Nickel:** BC2501NL-5

### A

**Silver:** BC2401-2

### Eb

**Silver:** BC2301-2

### C

**Silver:** BC2201-2



# PRODIGE

## MY FIRST BUFFET CRAMPON

---

Buffet Crampon has revolutionised the student clarinet! Now, beginners on a budget can start out with a professional sound.

Essential qualities of the Prodiges clarinet are tone, ergonomics and reliability.

For the first time in this range, the required operations for creating perfect acoustics, especially the moulding and drilling of the bore, are performed entirely in France and Germany to ensure a consistent result.

Prodige's new bore, inspired by the renowned E13 model, allows an unprecedented ease of play and projection of sound. The intervals between notes are pitch-perfect and balanced.

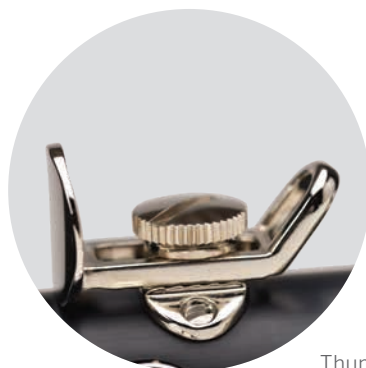
Its bell has also been entirely reworked in order to optimise projection. Our innovation: a textured bore.

It is now possible for a young musician to learn to play on a professional-sounding clarinet at a reasonable price.





Rubber damper



Thumb rest



## TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS

**Keys:** Bb / **Pitch:** 442 Hz

### Features:

#### Body:

- Co-polymeric ABS
- Poly-cylindrical bore inspired by the E13 model
- Barrel 65mm

#### Keywork:

- 17 or 18 keys, 6 rings
- Eb lever in option
- Silver plated or Nickel plated
- New adjustable thumb rest
- Rubber dampers
- Blue steel springs

#### Pads:

- Leather

#### Mouthpiece:

- Urban Play, black

#### Case:

- Backpack or ABS case

## REFERENCES

**Silver:** BC2541-2  
**Silver with Eb lever:** BC2541L-2

**Nickel:** BC2541-5  
**Nickel with Eb lever:** BC2541L-5



# PROFESSIONAL CLARINETS

	DIVINE	LÉGENDE	TOSCA	TRADITION	RC PRESTIGE	R13 PRESTIGE	FESTIVAL	VINTAGE	RC	R13
Model										
Key	Bb / A	Bb / A	Bb / A / Eb	Bb / A	Bb / A / Eb / D / C	Bb / A	Bb / A	Bb / A	Bb / A / Eb	Bb / A / Eb
Natural Grenadilla wood <i>(Dalbergia Melanoxylon)</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		
Stained Grenadilla wood <i>(Dalbergia Melanoxylon)</i>									•	•
Barrel (in mm)	65 and 66	Bb: 65 and 66 A: 64 and 65	Bb/ A: 65 and 66 Eb: 40,5 and 41,5	Bb: 65 and 66 A: 64 and 65	Bb: 65 and 66 A: 64 and 65	65/66	65 and 66	66	Bb: 65 and 66 A: 64 and 65	65/66
Available in Green LinE <i>(Dalbergia Melanoxylon composite)</i>			•		Bb / Eb		•		Bb	Bb / A
Pitch	440 / 442	440 / 442	440 / 442	440 / 442	440 / 442	440	440 / 442	440	440 and 442 and 444	440
ABS resin										
Bell with ring				•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Adjustable thumb rest	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Nickel plated keywork				•						•
Silver plated keywork	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Gold plated keywork on request	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Eb lever (standard)	•	•	•	•	Bb / A	•	•	•		
Eb lever (option)									Bb / A	Bb / A
Metal rings		Rose gold	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Carbon wire	•									
Low F correction key	•	•	•	•						
Raised C# - G# tone hole	A	A	A					A		
Caps on tenons	•		•		•	•	•			
Pads	GT / Cork	GT / Cork	GT / Cork	GT / leather / natural cork	leather / natural cork	leather / natural cork	GT / leather	GT / leather	leather / cork	bladder
Blue steel springs	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Delivered in case with ligature, reed, mouthpiece cap and accessories	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Delivered with mouthpiece			Eb		Eb / D / C				Eb	Eb

STUDENT CLARINETS

CONSERVATOIRE		E13		E12F	E11				PRODIGE
BC1136C	BC1134C	BC1102	BC1202	BC2512F	BC2501	BC2401	BC2301	BC2201	BC2541
Bb	Bb	Bb	A	Bb	Bb	A	Eb	C	Bb
•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
66	65	65	65	65	65	65	42.2	46.5	65
440	442	442	442	442	442	442	442	442	442
									•
•	•	•	•		•	•			
•	•	•	•	•			•	•	•
					•				•
•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
		•		•	•				•
•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
double fish skin	double fish skin	leather	leather	leather	bladder	bladder	bladder	bladder	leather
•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Urban Play



BUFFET  
CRAMPON  
PARIS



MADE IN FRANCE







# TOSCA

## 1195

### TOSCA BASS CLARINET

Buffet Crampon, with a dedicated strategy for the continued development and improvement of their instrument range, presents a new professional bass clarinet in 2014. This new bass is in keeping with the high standards of their celebrated models produced before 1998, giving players a subtle blend of traditional and new technologies.

This new TOSCA bass clarinet, conceived for the symphonic orchestras, broadens the spectrum of sound already appreciated in the existing B-flat and A models launched in 2004 the E-flat model in 2010. Its well-focused sound and luminous tone, assisted by a unique new register key system, allows the most demanding musician the ability to play the instrument's entire repertoire with an exceptional freedom and confidence.

Its intuitive, soundless TOSCA mechanism liberates the artist from the usual constraints imposed by the key action on the lower joint and the movements of the plateau keys of the instrument.

All these features will make this bass clarinet the best performing offer on the global market.

### TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS

**Key:** Bb / **Pitch:** 440 / 442 Hz

#### Features:

##### Body:

- Down to C
- Grenadilla wood (*Dalbergia Melanoxylon*)
- Tosca bore design
- Metal-capped tenons

##### Neck:

- Synthetic cork on tenon
- Neck adjusting screw

##### Keywork:

- 24 keys silverplated according to Tosca Design
- Unique register key system (bright Bb)
- Soundless mechanism with rubber dampers
- Adjustable thumb rest
- New thumb keys system
- Double low D/Eb

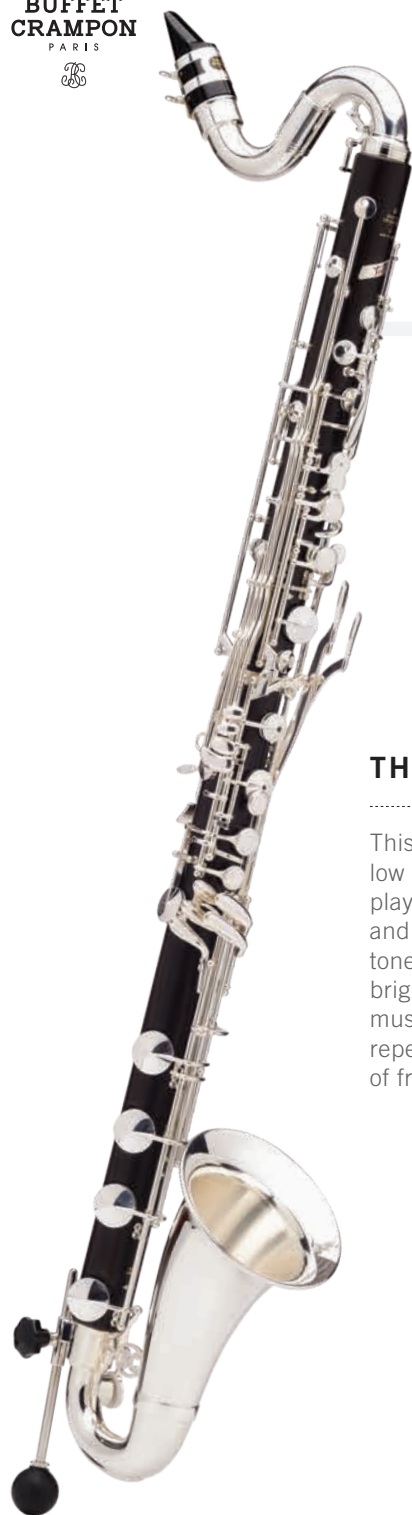
##### Pads:

- Leather
- Leather with metal resonators
- Cork

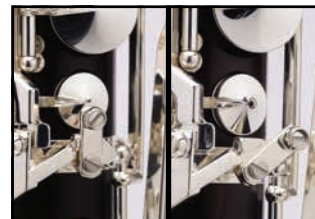
### REFERENCE

BC1195





Half-hole key switchable



G# articulated switchable



Thumb key system

1185

## THE NEW TOSCA 1185

This shorter version of the TOSCA low D bass clarinet allows for easier playing due to its reduced weight and bore length. Its bright, centred tone-colour, together with its TOSCA bright Bb mechanism, let the musician play the entire bass clarinet repertoire with an exceptional feeling of freedom and confidence.

## TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS

**Key:** Bb

**Pitch:** 440 / 442 Hz

**Features:**

**Body:**

- Down to low D
- Grenadilla wood (*Dalbergia Melanoxylon*)
- Tosca bore design
- Metal-capped tenons

**Neck:**

- Synthetic cork on tenon
- Two pieces adjustable
- Adjusting screw

**Keywork:**

- 20 keys silverplated, according to Tosca Design
- Unique register key system (bright Bb)
- Rubber dampers
- Adjustable thumb rest
- New thumb key system (low D)
- New articulated G# and a new switchable half-hole key

**Pads :**

- Leather
- Leather with metal resonators
- Cork

## REFERENCE

BC1185



# TOSCA

## 1185R

### THE NEW TOSCA 1185R

Riding on the success of the extended lower joint system offered by the Prestige BC1183R bass clarinet, this model will satisfy all artistic trends: classical to contemporary; jazz to traditional. All at once lightweight and powerful with its short configuration and TOSCA Bb clear mechanism, this model makes it possible to play a low D (C by ear). With its long configuration, the BC1185R captures all the qualities of the current BC1195 TOSCA bass clarinet, ensuring for the musician the rich, incredibly homogenous sound indigenous to this model.

### TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS

**Key:** Bb

**Pitch:** 440 / 442 Hz

**Features:**

**Body:**

- Down to low D and C
- Grenadilla wood (*Dalbergia Melanoxylon*)
- Tosca bore design
- Metal-capped tenons

**Neck:**

- Synthetic cork on tenon
- Two pieces adjustable
- Adjusting screw

**Keyword:**

- 24 keys silverplated, according to Tosca Design
- Unique register key system (bright Bb)
- Rubber dampers
- Adjustable thumb rest
- Double low D/Eb

**Pads :**

- Leather
- Leather with metal resonators
- Cork



### REFERENCE

BC1185R



PRESTIGE  
 1193

## PRESTIGE BASS CLARINETS

The bass clarinet is the instrument of the 21st Century. It is often played by orchestra musicians in operas, due to its capacity to play pianissimo in expressive melodies. It can also play swing and is not limited to a single kind of music. Sumptuous pages of music have been written for it.

The Prestige bass clarinet is also a solo instrument. All major orchestra clarinetists have played the bass clarinet.

The Prestige BC1193 bass clarinet is a perfect representative of Buffet Crampon's savoir-faire at its highest level. It has an Eb/Ab lever and a low G resonance key, and is equipped with a double D spatula and a triple D spatula.

Buffet Crampon is the standard brand of reference for the bass clarinet and offers these two professional models in a choice of grenadilla wood or the Green LinE composite material.

## TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS

**Key:** Bb / **Pitch:** 440 / 442 Hz

### Features:

#### Body:

- Low G resonance
- Eb/Ab lever
- down to C
- double D Spatula, triple D Spatula
- Adjustable thumb rest
- Double register mechanism
- Two-piece adjustable neck
- Body in selected natural African Blackwood (*Dalbergia Melanoxylon*) or in Green LinE (*Dalbergia Melanoxylon composite*)
- Silver-plated German silver bell

#### Keywork:

- 24 keys
- Forged keys, copper plated then silver
- Gold plated keywork on request
- Metal-capped tenons
- Blue steel springs for ease and accuracy of key movement

#### Pads:

- Leather
- Leather with metal resonators
- Cork



## REFERENCES

BC1193 / Green LinE BC1193G

*The clarinet of experience,  
the colour of maturity.*

# 1183 & 1183R

## PRESTIGE BASS CLARINETS

The BC1183 Prestige model is perfectly adapted to the experienced amateur and the ensemble musician. Its tone is rich, homogenous and focused. BC1183R own an extension to down to low C with the same instrument.

Both of these clarinets, which have evolved and been perfected over many years of research and testing, possess the signature tone of Buffet Crampon instruments and have a warm, full timbre. They both have a neck in two parts for greater comfort without stress or stiffness.



## TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS

**Key:** Bb / **Pitch:** 440 / 442 Hz

### Features:

#### Body:

- Low G resonance
- Eb/Ab lever
- BC1183: down to D / BC1183R: down to low C
- Adjustable thumb rest
- Double register mechanism
- Two-piece adjustable neck
- Body in selected natural African Blackwood (*Dalbergia Melanoxylon*) or in Green LinE (*Dalbergia Melanoxylon composite*)
- Silver-plated German silver bell

#### Keywork:

- BC1183: 19 keys / BC1183R: 24 keys
- Forged keys, copper plated then silver
- Gold plated keywork on request
- Metal-capped tenons
- Blue steel springs for ease and accuracy of key movement

#### Pads:

- Leather
- Leather with metal resonators
- Cork

## REFERENCES

BC1183 / Green LinE BC1183G  
with extension BC1183R



THE MODERN BASSET CLARINET, DESIGNED WITH ALL OF THE PERFECTED ELEMENTS OF THE BOEHM SYSTEM DEVELOPED BY BUFFET CRAMPON, ENABLES CLARINETTISTS TO PLAY CONCERTOS AND QUINTETS AS THEY WERE COMPOSED AND DESIGNED TO BE PLAYED BY MOZART.

# BASSET A & BASSET HORN



## THE A BASSET CLARINET AND THE BASSET HORN

Although the clarinet was invented at the end of the 17th century, it had to wait many years before being adopted into the orchestra. Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart has composed some of the most beautiful compositions ever written for this instrument.

Anton Stadler is probably the first clarinetist to have played the instrument that is the precursor of the A basset and basset horn. Its range was greater by a major third toward the lower notes and its sound was unique and sweet. This clarinet is in A but descends to a low C.

The basset horn, in the same spirit, is an instrument touched by magic and in many shades. It was magnificently adopted by Mozart, and the great contemporary composers, including Boulez and Stockhausen, have written music for this instrument, whose sound is balanced and luminous.

These remarkably designed instruments are made of grenadilla wood and finished with the Buffet Crampon Prestige finish.

The modern basset clarinet, designed with all of the perfected elements of the Boehm system developed by Buffet Crampon, enables clarinetists to play concertos and quintets as they were conceived and imagined by Mozart.

*The basset A provides a means of expression for the entire range of feelings.*



Basset A

## TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS

**Key:** A (basset A) / F (basset horn)

**Pitch:** 442 Hz

**Features:**

**Body:**

- Natural African Blackwood (*Dalbergia Melanoxylon*)
- Down to C
- Simplified Bb
- Basset horn with low G resonance, Eb-Ab lever, double D spatula, adjustable neck and thumb rest

**Keywork:**

- Forged keys, copper plated then silver plated
- Gold plated keywork on request
- Metal-capped tenons
- Blue steel springs for ease and accuracy of key movement

**Pads:**

- Basset A: 100% waterproof material (GT)
- Basset horn: leather and cork

## REFERENCES

**BASSET A:** BC1223

**BASSET HORN:** BC1723



Basset horn: adjustable neck



Basset horn



# 1503 ALTO

## ALTO AND CONTRA-ALTO CLARINETS

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Created in the frenzy of the 19th Century and already present at that time in the Buffet Crampon catalogue, these clarinets have a fundamental place in concert orchestras. They shine in all sorts of repertoires, including contemporary music. They can be found in small clarinet groups, concert ensembles or symphonies.

## 1503 ALTO

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Perfectly balanced in colour and timbre, the alto clarinet is known for its ease of response. It produces a warm and powerful tone due to its wide bore.



Adjustable neck



# 1553 CONTRA-ALTO

## 1553 CONTRA-ALTO

This clarinet has a beautiful rich sound. Affiliated with the “Buffet sound”, its timbre is rich and deep. It creates multiple sumptuous blends when combines with bassoons and bass clarinets.

### REFERENCES

**Alto:** BC1503  
**Contra-alto:** BC1553

## TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS

**Key:** Eb / **Pitch:** 442 Hz

### Features:

#### Body:

- Eb/Ab lever
- Adjustable thumb rest
- Alto with simplified Bb
- Contra-alto with double register mechanism, two-piece adjustable neck, adjustable thumbrest
- Body in selected natural African Blackwood (*Dalbergia Melanoxylon*)
- Silver-plated German silver bell

#### Keywork:

- Forged keys, copper plated then silver plated as for Prestige
- Metal-capped tenons
- Blue steel springs for ease and accuracy of key movement

#### Pads:

- Leather and cork

# STUDENT

## BC1180



### STUDENT BASS CLARINET

Entirely relooked to offer young students and amateur players an instrument providing thrilling sensations in the lowest notes which are the pillars of harmony, the BC 1180 is sure to suit every musical style.

This clarinet facilitates the jump between intervals without risk thanks to its new and reconceptualized simplified register key system. Its wide, homogeneous sound palette and extremely fluid Legato allow the musician to experiment with every acoustic or technical idea imaginable.

As the only student bass clarinet made from selected and treated grenadilla wood from Mozambique, delivered in a compact, lightweight case, the new Buffet Crampon 1180 stands out from all others thanks to the quality of its manufacture, its remarkable intonation, timbre and overall comfort. It sets itself as the global standard for student bass clarinets.

### TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS

**Key:** Bb / **Pitch:** 440 / 442 Hz

**Features:**

**Body:**

- Down to Eb
- Adjustable thumb rest
- Selected and treated grenadilla wood (*Dalbergia Melanoxylon*)
- Silver-plated bell and neck

**Keywork:**

- 18 keys
- Silver-plated keywork
- Blue steel springs for ease and accuracy of key movement
- New and re-conceptualized simplified register key system
- Pivot screw
- Rubber bumper

**Pads:**

- Leather with resonators

**Case:**

- Light and compact



### REFERENCE

BC1180



# HARMONY CLARINETS

	BASSET A	BASSET HORN	TOSCA BASS			PRESTIGE BASS			ALTO	CONTRA-ALTO	STUDENT BASS
	BC1223	BC1723	BC1195	BC1185	BC1185R	BC1193	BC1183	BC1183R	BC1503	BC1553	BC1180
Key	A	F	Bb	Bb	Bb	Bb	Bb	Bb	Eb	Eb	Bb
To Eb							•		•	•	•
To C	•	•	•	•		•					
To D					•			•			
Pitch	442	442	442	442	442	442	442	442	442	442	442
Upper and lower joint in natural Grenadilla wood <i>(Dalbergia Melanoxylon)</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Available in Green LinE <i>(Dalbergia Melanoxylon composite)</i>						•	•	•			
African blackwood <i>(Dalbergia Melanoxylon)</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Simplified Bb		•				•	•	•	•		
Double register mechanism			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Bright Bb mechanism			•	•	•						
Low G resonance		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Eb/Ab lever		•	•	•	•	•	•	•			•
Double low Eb			•			•					
Triple low D						•				•	
Double low D			•								
Adjustable thumb rest	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Silver plated keywork	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Gold plated keywork (on specific demand)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Metal tenon rings			•	•	•	•	•	•			
Pads with resonators		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Leather and cork pads	•			•	•						•
GT pads				•	•	•	•	•		•	
Adjustable neck	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Blue steel springs		•	•	•	•		•	•	•		
Bell	Wood	Metal	Metal	Metal	Metal	Metal	Metal	Metal	Metal	Metal	Metal
Delivered in case with ligature, reed, mouthpiece, mouthpiece cap and accessories	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•



CHOOSING AN INSTRUMENT TAKES PARTICULAR CARE, AND WE RECOMMEND THAT YOU COMPARE TONES, ORIGINS OF MANUFACTURE, QUALITIES, AND FINISHING TOUCHES. FINDING THE CLARINET THAT CORRESPONDS TO YOUR NEEDS AND EXPECTATIONS ALSO INVOLVES CHOOSING THE ACCESSORIES THAT ARE INDISPENSABLE TO THE CARE AND PRACTICE OF THE INSTRUMENT.

# ACCESSORIES

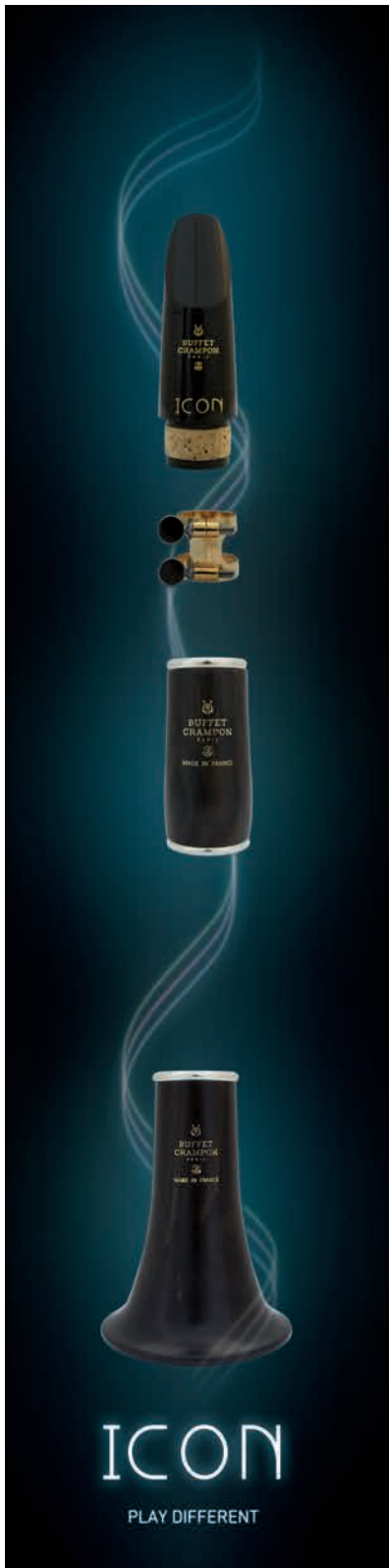
## A RANGE OF CAREFULLY SELECTED PRODUCTS

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Buffet Crampon has selected its line of accessories with great care. Some of them, such as the mouthpiece, the ligature, the reed, the barrel and the tuning rings, directly condition the timbre and precision of the instrument. Others, like the thumb rest, non-slip cushions and straps, provide comfort while playing.

We recommend that you develop a regular routine of care for your clarinet. Buffet Crampon swabs are specifically adapted to the bore of your clarinet. They have been perfected during manufacturing and tested by professionals. Simple or double cases and a choice of light, practical protective cases are also offered. Made in the traditional fashion in wood or thermo-form materials, they will protect your instrument efficiently. Whether a professional or a beginner, your instrument is valuable, because of all that you share with it. Take good care of it.

To receive a complete list of available accessories, please send your request to: [accessories@buffetcrampon.com](mailto:accessories@buffetcrampon.com).



MOUTHPIECE CAPS AND LIGATURES



BARRELS



CASE WITH SPECIAL DESIGN



SIMPLE AND DOUBLE CASES



BACKPACK



STANDS



MOUTHPIECES



SWABS



THE INTERNATIONAL STANDARD OF REFERENCE FOR CLARINETS SINCE 1825, BUFFET CRAMPON'S AMBITION IS TO BRING ALL INSTRUMENTS IN THE WOODWIND FAMILY TO THE HIGHEST LEVEL. ITS EXCEPTIONAL SAVOIR-FAIRE IS REPRESENTATIVE OF A LIVING HERITAGE THAT HAS BEEN RECOGNIZED AND PROTECTED. THE PERSONALITY OF ITS SOUND IS A SIGNATURE THAT IS REMARKABLE AND SOUGHT AFTER. LAST BUT CERTAINLY NOT LEAST, COUNTLESS MUSICIANS DEVELOP A STRONG ATTACHMENT TO OUR INSTRUMENTS, DEMONSTRATED BY UNFAILING LOYALTY TO OUR BRAND AND AN AFFECTIONATE RESPECT FOR THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO CONTINUE TO PRODUCE MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS WITH A PRIORITY ON TRADITIONAL VALUES. WELCOME TO THE BUFFET CRAMPON FAMILY.

# IMPORTANT MOMENTS IN OUR HISTORY



**1825**

The French instrument maker, Denis Buffet-Auger, sets up his workshop in the heart of Paris at 22 Passage du Grand Cerf. He rapidly becomes well known in the musical community by producing excellent 13-key clarinets.

**1836**

Jean-Louis Buffet, Denis' son, marries Zoe Crampon in 1836 and creates the famous Buffet Crampon brand name.



**1844**

The logo used today is first created. It appears on all of the instruments created by the company.



**1850**

This year saw the establishment of the Buffet Crampon workshops and factory in Mantes-la-Ville (Yvelines, France) and creation of the Buffet Crampon Boehm system clarinet.

**1866**

Buffet Crampon creates its first saxophones, 20 years after the invention of this instrument by the Belgian Adolphe Sax.



**1889**

Buffet Crampon wins a number of awards at the Universal Exposition in Paris.

**1918**

Buffet Crampon makes the most of the expansion of the American market and confirms its position as world leader of manufacturers of professional-quality clarinets.

**1955**

Robert Carrée joins Buffet Crampon as an apprentice in 1921. He is a talented acoustics technician and the creator of the R13 model.



**1975**

The year was marked by the arrival of the RC clarinet, which bore the initials of its designer, Robert Carrée. Two clarinets whose origins lie with this model later came into being, the Festival and Prestige models. The Prestige line is deployed in all ranges.

**1981**

Buffet Crampon becomes a member of the famous Boosey & Hawkes group of London. This group was created in 1760. The workshops modernized over time, adapting their technology to current developments, but always maintaining the original high standard for finishing work.



**1994**

Buffet Crampon creates the Green LinE and registers the brand name. It designed a range of instruments made from a composite of reconstituted ebony from Mozambique that keep 100% of the acoustic properties and provide incontestable reliability and longevity for the instruments.

*Buffet Crampon's history is marked by a number of moments and events that reflect its desire to innovate.*

# STORY MOMENTS

**2004**



The year saw the creation of the line of professional clarinets referred to as TOSCA, another child of the R13 family, conceived and designed by Michel Arrignon and perfected in cooperation with the best-known musicians.

**2005**



Buffet Crampon benefited from an upswing in investments. Ever seeking to meet the needs and expectations of professional musicians, Buffet Crampon extended its know-how and its range of saxophones, double reeds (and notably the English horn), and to its student models.

**2010**



The company continues to pursue its strategy of industrial independence, and through a new acquisition of a factory in Germany (Markneukirchen), it is able to produce student models of oboes and clarinets.

**2014**



Buffet Crampon, with a dedicated strategy for the continued development and improvement of their instrument range, presents a new professional bass clarinet in 2014: TOSCA. This new bass is in keeping with the high standards of their celebrated models produced before 1998, giving players a subtle blend of traditional and new technologies.

**2012**



After five years of a collaboration between the Buffet Crampon Research and Development team and a group comprising testers, masters and soloists from renowned international orchestras, to attain the level of excellence, the new professional clarinet "Divine" comes.

**2016**



Buffet Crampon launch 2 new clarinet models: the professional clarinet TRADITION and the student PRODIGE. Buffet Crampon begins the countdown to its 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary with an exciting new brand logo that derives its identity from previous brand logos, dating back to 1844.



*Prodige*

Buffet Crampon 55



buffetcrampon.com

# CLARINETS



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