

Slingerland RADIO KING MARBLE DELUXE

I was fortunate enough to come across these drums a few years ago and save them from certain doom. A phone call asking how to remove the "ugly marble color" paint from some old drums caught my interest. I assured the owner that they would be worth more if he left them as they were. I purchased them along with other vintage kits he had stumbled upon.

They have a tone that you can hear just looking at them. The color is one of Slingerlands "Antique finishes". A fused lacquer finish, it was used in a number of variations from the early 30's to the late 60's. Due to the tendency of lacquer finishes to crack, and the lack of a good primer coat on most lacquered drums, not many of these have weathered the years.

The year... from the aluminum wartime badge nickel plating, and the rivets in the snare gate, I would date them at around 1943.

The centerpiece of this kit is the snare. 7x14, solid maple shell, engraved Radio King hoops, three point strainer, beavertail lugs. It's all there and all original.

The toms are 9x13 and 12x14. Harold R. Dodd greenfelt mufflers. Streamlined lugs. Bass drum is single tension.

The original Epic bass pedal and Epic hi-hat stand are pictured. Cymbals pictured are Zildjian.



Despite some cosmetics, I consider them to be in good condition however... this is currently a players kit. The original bass drum pictured was "downsized" in the 50's to a 22" and will be replaced using another I am restoring. I'll be using them on an upcoming Blues/Rock/Swing project.

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