

KOLBERG PERCUSSION

# Marimba



# Marimba Avantgarde



- 5 octave range from C - c4
- Bars made from Honduran rosewood
- Height adjustable from 88 to 100 cm
- Lightweight frame made from high-quality aluminium (27 kg)
- Exceptionally light weight (89 kg)
- Quick assembly and disassembly (1-2 minutes)
- Dismantles for easy transportation
- Brass or aluminium resonators
- Length x width: 260 x 110 cm
- Standard tuning 443 Hz, other pitches available on request
- Also available as an A-marimba (4 1/3 octave from A - c4)

## Jasmin Kolberg talks about the „Avantgarde“ marimba

*I've been giving concerts for more than 15 years and know practically every marimba on the market. However, until the advent of the "Avantgarde" marimba in 2001, none of the available instruments met all my criteria:*

- Brilliant, voluminous and warm sound
- Homogenous timbre across the entire range of the instrument
- Low weight
- Easy to transport, even for one person
- Quick set up and dismantling
- No unwanted vibrations, even after years of heavy use
- Resonator stops that are easy to reach and adjust

*I've been playing the "Avantgarde" for more than six years now, and I am still thrilled by its capabilities. Finally pure music, without compromise.*

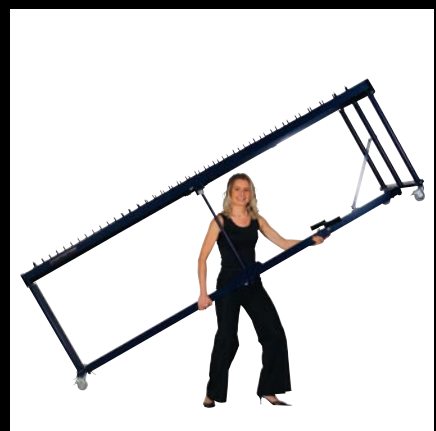
*Jasmin Kolberg*

# Marimba Avantgarde

## Design and construction

The entire frame, which sports an elegant, modern design is made from high-quality aluminium tubing that ensures both low weight (only 27 kg!) and high stability. Each of the four wheels is equipped with locking brakes and pivot stops to ensure that the instrument remains perfectly stationary during use. All connection points, such as the rails and the resonator mounting brackets are provided with seated felt dampeners to reliably eliminate unwanted vibrations.

All frame parts are covered with a rugged, scratch-and-impact resistant powder coating. The standard colour of the frame is anthracite-metallic; other colours, based on the RAL colour spectrum, are available on request.



### Vertical adjustability (1)

Pneumatic springs make it easy to set the instrument's height. Adjustment markings on the wheel mounts are provided for orientation. The standard height range of the instrument is 88 to 100 cm; other height ranges are available on request.

### Hinged connections (2)

The rails and the centre brace employ a special system of internal hinges that ensure optimal lateral and longitudinal stability.

### Centre column (3)

The centre column serves to support the rails and resonators, as well as to increase the overall stability of the instrument. Sagging rails are a thing of the past. Spacers between rails are no longer needed.

### Set-up and dismantling

Due to the near complete lack of bolted fasteners, the instrument can be easily assembled and disassembled: quick-release fasteners connect the centre brace to the side columns, plug-fit dampeners connect the rails and the resonator mounting brackets to the side columns and the resonator blocks are simply hung in place within the frame.

The amazing assembly and disassembly times speak for themselves:

Two people can set up the instrument in 2 minutes, one person in 4 minutes.

Two people can dismantle it in 1 Minute, one person in 2 1/2 minutes.

*You know the situation:*

*You arrive at the concert hall and none of the promised helpers shows up to carry your instrument onto the stage. A ray of hope: an elevator! But it's out of order. You'll have to use the stairway. You can feel your arms weakening as you lug your marimba up the steps, and you ask yourself, "Why does this thing have to be so heavy and bulky?"*

*The answer is: it doesn't!*

*Kolberg's ingenious aluminium construction eliminates unnecessary weight and simplifies assembly. One person can easily carry and assemble the instrument.*

*What's more, the set up and dismantling can be carried out in record time thanks to plug-fit connections and quick-release fasteners. This leaves more time to warm up or rest prior to a performance. And the lack of complex mechanical parts minimizes the risk of injuring a finger during setup.*

*With the „Avantgarde“ marimba you are at ease when you walk on stage.*

# Marimba Elegance



- 5 octave range from C - c4
- Bars made from Honduran rosewood
- Elegant wood frame
- Ingenious synergy of design and function
- Electrically or manually height adjustable from 85 bis 103 cm
- Synchronously height adjustable from a single location
- Brass or aluminium resonators
- Dismantles for easy transportation
- Length x width: 275 x 107 cm
- Standard tuning 443 Hz, other pitches available on request

# Marimba Elegance

## Design and construction

The Marimba „Elegance“ combines exquisite design, innovative technique and excellent voluminous sound. The frame, made from solid German wood, has been masterfully crafted both by hand and using modern CNC technology. Aesthetically, the colours and textures of the frame coordinate perfectly with those of the rosewood bars and resonators.

Each of the four wheels is equipped with locking brakes to ensure that the instrument remains perfectly stationary during use. All connection points, such as the rails and the resonator mounting brackets are provided with seated felt dampeners to reliably eliminate unwanted vibrations. Plug fittings connect all frame parts. A few turns of the securing bolt ensure that the frame remains extremely stable. A personal text or logo can, on request be applied to the wider end panel.



### **Innovative vertical adjustability**

A new Kolberg invention allows the marimba height to be adjusted synchronously at a single location - either electronically or manually by just one crank handle.

### **Electronic adjustability**

By only pressing a single button on the electronic panel the marimbas height is adjusted synchronously and quickly. The electronic display panel shows the precise height in centimeter. An additional memory-function with four memory cells is ideal when the instrument is shared between players. Electrical connection: 230 voltage.

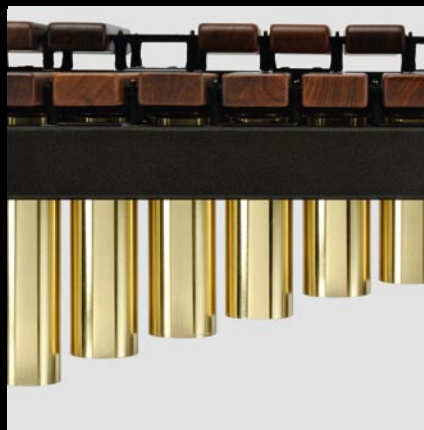
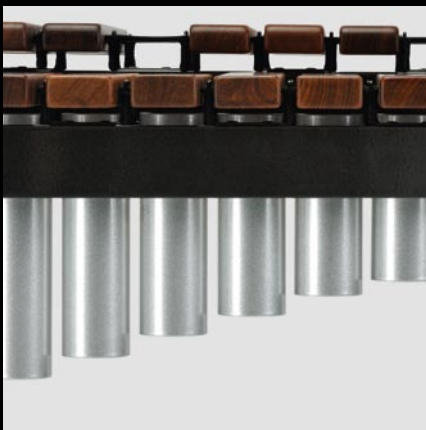
### **Manual adjustability**

The instruments height can easily be adjusted by a single crank handle, located in front of the player on the small end of the marimba. A scale on the side-column precisely displays the adjusted height.



# Resonators

The exclusive use of cylindrical resonators ensures a homogeneous tone over the entire keyboard. Each resonator is held in place by means of high-quality rivets. To eliminate unwanted vibration, glue is applied between all contact points. The mitred edges of the elbow resonators are welded using a special technique. The six resonator blocks are anchored to the frame by high-precision felt dampeners; an additional bolted connection is not necessary.



## Unique system for adjusting the resonator base

A temperature difference of 10° C (18° F) changes the length of the C-resonator by about 2.5 cm. Thus, it is critical that a musician can adjust the height for the optimal sound volume.

The Kolberg Marimba, unlike conventional systems, employs an especially developed coarse thread spindle that lets the marimbist adjust the resonator base ("resonator stops") quickly and more efficiently. This system also enables the stop to retain its normal tension during repositioning, so that the sound volume remains constant. This in turn, makes it easier to locate the optimal resonance point.

The resonators for the notes from C to c2 can be adjusted using this system. The resonators of higher registers can be made adjustable on request.

## Aluminium version

The resonators are made from special aluminium tubing produced exclusively for Kolberg Percussion. The surface of each resonator is covered with a rugged, scratch-and-impact resistant powder coating. The standard colour is silver-metallic; other colours, based on the RAL colour spectrum, are available on request.

## Brass version

The resonators are made from high-quality, precision engineered brass tubing. The surface of each resonator is polished to a high gloss finish.

## Exclusively cylindrical resonators

*Cylindrical resonators located directly below the centre of each bar, let you create all manner of colours from each note: a full, ringing tone in the middle of the bar to a dry tone near the cord. By taking full advantage of the range of sound colours and by using different mallets, the tonal nuances you can generate are infinite!*

*This is not the case with resonators that run nearly from rail to rail.*

*In addition, the fact that all of the resonators have the same shape ensures a balanced sound across the entire instrument.*

*In my personal experience, a circular cross-section better amplifies the fundamental, reduces diffuse harmonics, and thereby produces a true, balanced, and voluminous sound.*

## Adjustable resonator stops

*It is necessary to adjust the instrument to respond to variable conditions of humidity and temperature.*

*Anyone who has played one day in a 14° C (57° F) church and the next day in an overheated 25° C (77° F) concert hall knows exactly what I am talking about.*

*Adjustable resonator stops allow optimal dynamic control.*

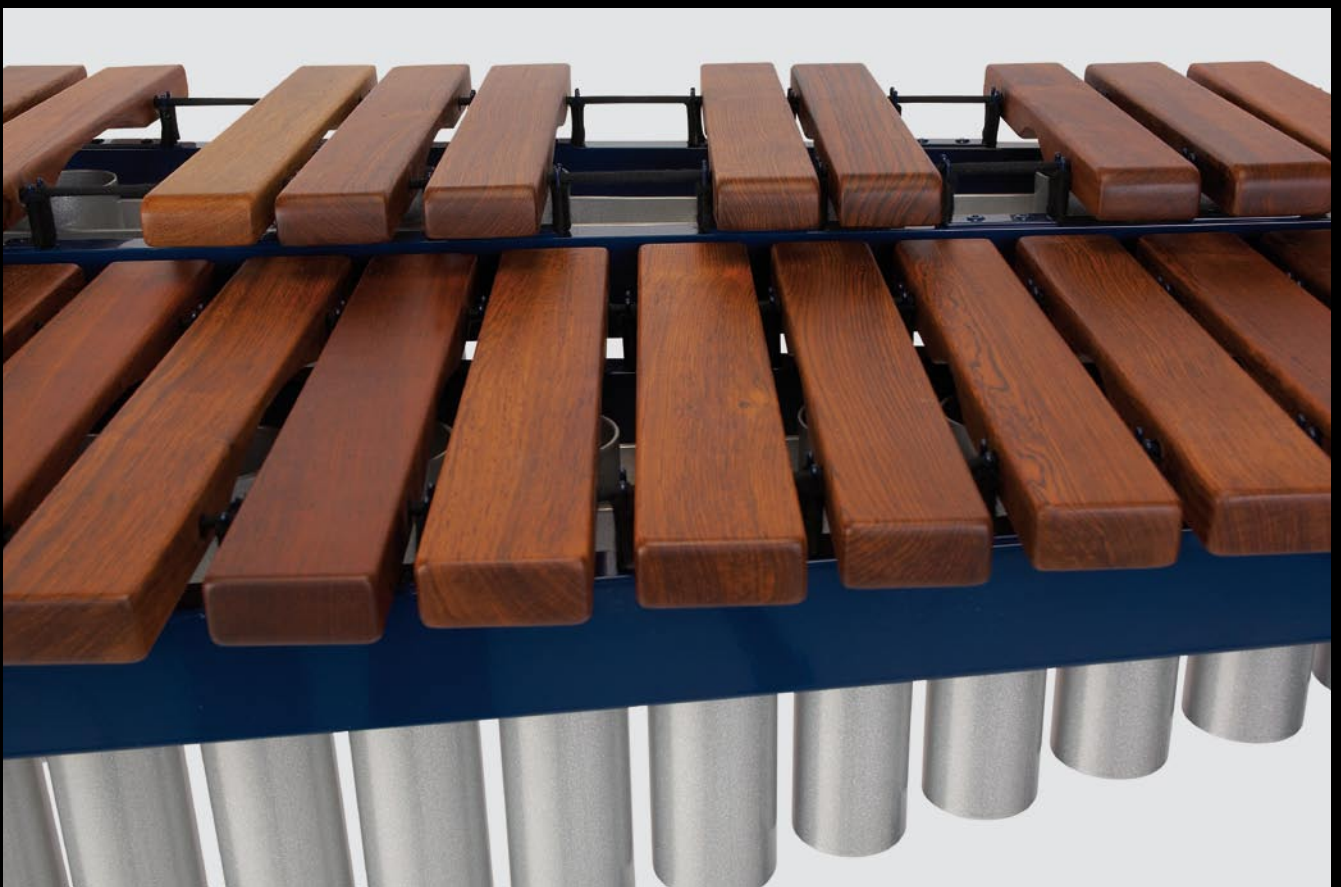
# Bars

The bars are made from the finest Honduran rosewood, personally selected by Bernhard Kolberg in its country of origin. The wood is seasoned in the Kolberg storage facility in Germany for up to 12 years.

The front edges of the sharps are rounded for more comfortable playing.

The widths of the bars range from 83 mm to 45 mm.

The standard pitch is 443 Hz, but other pitches are available on request.



# Service & Accessories

Regardless of what your needs might be, Kolberg Percussion guarantees fast, effective and friendly service.

To fully take advantage of the complete variety of sounds able to be produced, multitone mallets from the "Jasmin Kolberg Solo" Collection, available at Kolberg Percussion's, are best.

To protect your precious instrument during transport, the following options are available:

- Robust, well cushioned bags
- Very sturdy, delicately lined hard-cases
- Very durable flight cases for the best possible security and protection whilst travelling



Kolberg Percussion GmbH  
Stuttgarter Str. 157  
73066 Uhingen, Germany  
Phone +49 (0) 7161 / 30 05 - 30  
Fax +49 (0) 7161 / 30 05 - 40

Manufacturing, distribution, maintenance and repair of percussion instruments and orchestra equipment.  
[www.kolberg-percussion.com](http://www.kolberg-percussion.com)  
[info@kolberg-percussion.com](mailto:info@kolberg-percussion.com)

09/2008

Direct supply worldwide. Subject to change of prices and models and to technical improvements without notice.