

Ronsen Piano Hammer Company announces
The New "Weickert Special" Felt Hammer
Produced in America by the Ronsen Hammer Co.

---Submitted By Dale Erwin---
Promoting research, development & providing technical support.

The Wurzen felt company of Germany, successor to the legendary J.D. Weickert Felt Company, recently introduced their latest high end hammer felt, called "Weickert Special". Sound familiar? It should. This felt was prized by hammer piano makers for its resilience & tonal versatility. The J.D. Weickert felt co., the oldest in the world, were the leaders in hammer top felt development beginning in approximately 1847

Weickert felt was in use by many famous makers for nearly 90 years before WW-II forced the privately owned plant to be expropriated under Communist state ownership. N.Y. & Hamburg Steinways as well as Mason & Hamlin, Bechstein and a host of other German & U.S. Instruments used this felt as a vital component of their tone producing system.

When the Berlin Wall came down, the Brand family purchased the facility and in 1992 began felt production and soon afterwards began hammer felt production with the original equipment and felt making formulas still intact! They renamed the company Wurzen felt co. which makes a host of piano felts for the industry which are marketed and used worldwide.

Now the Famous Weickert felt piano hammer has been recreated. It is a dense, springy felt that provides a rich palette of tonal coloration to the musician and technician.

Ronsen-made "Weickert Special" felt hammers elicit enormous sustain and tonal clarity from the very first moment, ... and these attributes are present without pre-needling

A simple probing of these hammers with a single #6 needle reveals a wonderful dense feel, and the needles go all the way in with a beautiful feel of velvety compliance.

The "Weickert Special" felt by the Wurzen co. is a unique proprietary blend of wool and a classified production method chosen that is different and more refined, but still follows the principals of Weickert hammer felt making techniques. Since the felt is not treated as harshly as some, small organic elements can still be seen in the hammers. It is a sure sign that the felt is being preserved in as pristine a state as possible which retains the springy qualities necessary for tone production.

Elasticity, density and strength are left intact and are the vital and necessary ally of voicing technicians.

"Weickert Special" felt, is produced using the time-tested traditional hammer-making protocols of Ronsen's Ray Negron. Ronsen hammers are made in traditional hand screw press similar to machines used at Steinway and every piano factory for over a hundred years. This machine allows an artistically creative approach to the art of hammer making by allowing the operator to feel how much pressure is required on each and every set. A piano hammer by definition is a non-linear felt spring and this protocol insures true felt tension & compression in one of the most unique piano hammers in the world today.

For 3 1/2 years Ray Negron of Ronsen, Jack Brand of Wurzen co. and Dale Erwin of Erwin's Piano Restoration Inc. collaborated together to re-introduce this fantastic felt.

Join the Weickert Revolution!