



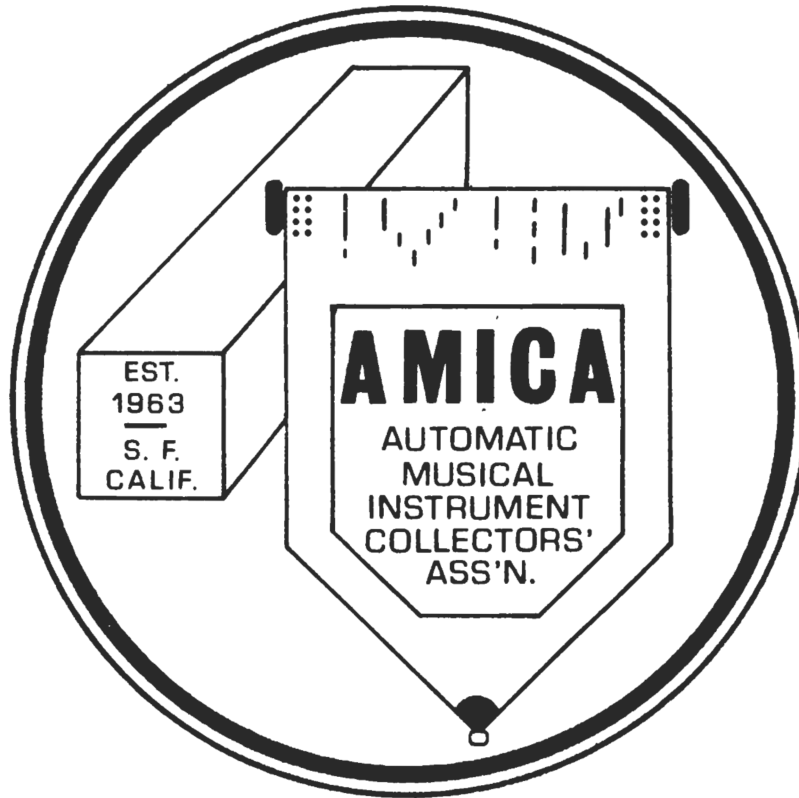
AMICA
TECHNICALITIES

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Compiled by

Mel Luchetti

TECHNICALITIES III



INTRODUCTION

This third volume of **TECHNICALITIES** is divided into four sections: 1. **PLAYERS**, which includes all types of players and mechanisms, 2. **AMPICO**, 3. **DUO-ART** and 4. **MISCELLANY**, which includes tools, studies, materials, etc. An attempt has been made to keep related articles together so that the ideas of various authors may be compared. The index contains both subjects and authors.

My thanks to Jack and Dianne Edwards who did the original art work and to Tom Beckett who attended to the printing and assembly. A special thanks, as always, to all the **AMICA** members who took time to write the articles and share their knowledge.

Mel Luchetti

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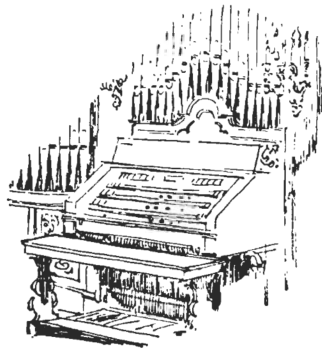
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PLAYERS

REBUILDING THE SCHULTZ STACK

BY CRAIG R. BROUGHER

Billed as one of the pianos to avoid, the Schultz is really a very good player and if properly overhauled will be one of the tightest actions ever constructed. You'll wonder what this piano was doing with two pedals if you've ever pumped a rebuilt Schultz. However they have some frustrating moments if you don't know about them in advance. So don't shy away anymore from rebuilding a Schultz since you can pick one up cheaply now because of their poor reputation and turn it into an incredibly responsive, super-fast action player.

Looking at the spoolbox you'll see a tracker bar with rather narrow holes. This is an indication that the designer intended the valve to be sensitive and operate with great speed. At the same time this should tell you that valve size will be large and travel will be very small. Another thing it will tell you is you should retube with 5/32" tracker bar tubing if it does not have a primary valve and uses the normal length runs of tubing. For this system, unclogged tubing runs are a must.

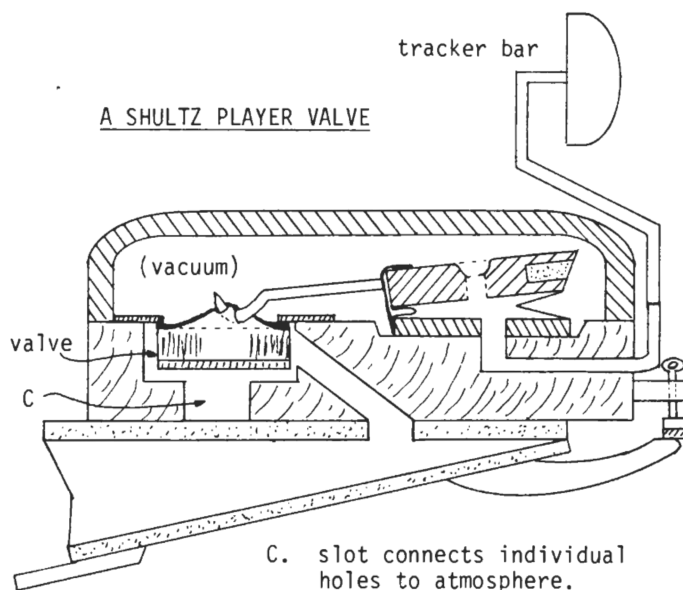
The lead weight in the valve pneumatic keeps the valve normally up. When air enters the pneumatic it puffs out, opens up and pushes the valve down to the lower seat.

The one basic problem a Schultz valve has is the susceptibility to pinholing in the valve pneumatic, a funny looking little pneumatic about 1½" long and a half inch wide. So when you recover it, I recommend a material such as sealed pouch leather or better still, pylon, which will not get porous or rot.

STACK REMOVAL:

The Schultz stack is difficult to handle with its hinged top action and no blocks to stand it on and can only be laid on its face without damage. I suggest being careful when you remove this action - it can get away from you.

A SHULTZ PLAYER VALVE



INITIAL PREPARATIONS:

Take a strip of plywood an inch wide and tape some paper tape or adding machine tape to it. Before removing the stack, butt the strip against the bass cheek of the piano and mark where the end of the player action touches the strip. This will register the rest of the marks. Heavy up that line. Remove the action now and mark centers of the top row of wooden projections which are glued to the action stickers. Do the same for the other two rows of projections and use a different length mark for each row. This will keep the marks differentiated for you. I guarantee that you will be absolutely delighted that you followed this step. The Schultz action is direct blow and the stickers of the piano action warp and twist. Even if you could glue each pneumatic back in perfect alignment, the chances are you would still have five or six notes that jam up or that would strike two notes at a time (You'd think that impossible with three separate rows of projections wouldn't you?).