

VICTORY PIANO



The GIs landed on the beaches of Normandy on 6th June 1944. Among them were the four sons of the founder of Steinway & Sons. Plus the weapons and tools of war...they could never have imagined that 20 months before, the American Army had placed an order with Steinway & Sons for upright pianos in khaki colours, the aim being that soldiers could relax and listen to jazz music during their down time.

Designed to cope with extreme conditions out in the field, these uprights were made from solid wood and weighed around 250 kgs for optimum stability. Handles were added to each side of the keyboard so that soldiers could carry them around easily. Keys were coated in white celluloid as ivory was not deemed fit for purpose in hot regions.

2436 Victory pianos were manufactured in military colours: they remained in American barracks in France until 1966-1967 when American soldiers were asked by General de Gaulle to return home for good. As these pianos were dispersed across rural France some of them subsequently got lost...

This piano was discovered in 2017 in Eastern France and is presented in its original condition: our design office and workshop technicians are at your disposal for any project you might have in mind, whether that means:

- Restoring the instrument whilst preserving aspects that testify to its historical past;
- Completely restoring the piano (like the new Victory models from the era);
- Free style customisation

MODEL AVAILABLE FOR SALE

Price depends on project envisaged.

VICTORY PIANO



MAKER: STEINWAY & SONS

YEAR: 1944

SERIAL N°: 316.941

MODEL: Victory (L : 146 cm / d : 55 cm / h : 108 cm)

PROJECT DURATION: depends on project.

PIANO CASE FINISHING:

Khaki (manufacturer's original colour).
Demilitarised post war with matt black.

ACTION LES **ATELIERS** :
Pianos HANLET

Total restoration anticipated, prepping and returning to former glory using original components.