

Humes & Berg Mfg. Co.

Chicago

- 1900 Guy B. Humes (1880-?), jeweler, Albany, WI (census)
- 1910 Humes, music teacher, Chicago (census)
- 1918 Humes, union musician, Chicago (draft)
- 1920 Humes granted patent #1,350,409 for triangular mute (photo 1)
- 1921 Humes granted patent #1,387,490 for variable tone mute (photo 2)
- 1922 Humes granted patents #1,409,180 for tone key on reed instrument & #1,409,860 for Jazz mute (photo 3)
- 1923 Humes granted patent #1,446,623 for sax reed clamp
- 1925 Humes granted patent #1,553,081 for reed clamp
- 1930 Humes, musician for Baly Room orchestra, Chicago (census); he is living at #5317 S. Morgan St which is the same address given on a Humes & Maupin cup mute (photo 4 & bottom center) for the Guy B. Humes Co.; his partner was probably Rex Maupin (b.1896), a musician and radio station music director
- 1935 Willie Berg (1915-1996) is working as a clarinet & sax player in Chicago and starts selling musical accessories (H&B history)
- 1938 Humes granted patent #2,108,769 for straight and cup mutes with a tremolo effect; assigned 1/2 to Berg (this is the first evidence I could find for a partnership)
- 1940 Berg, musical instrument salesman, #7033 S. Wabash Ave., Chicago; living with wife Faye and his parents, Russian Jewish immigrants in 1908 (census)
- c.1940 Willie & Faye are making mutes in their apartment (H&B)
- 1948 H&B moves small factory to present location at #4801 Railroad Ave., East Chicago (H&B)
- 1962 H&B factory burns to the ground; rebuilt with son Irwin
- 1992 Irwin Berg's son Mike starts at H&B (H&B)

