

Julius Keilwerth

Nauheim, Germany

- 1925 Julius Keilwerth (1894-1962, photo 1) establishes sax production and repair in Graslitz with brother Max
- 1940 150 workers by WWII making saxophones
- 1945 company ends after war
- 1946 Julius leaves for Bavaria
- 1947 Julius settles in Nauheim and starts doing sax repairs at Bahnhofstrasse 9
- 1948 the Amati collective in Kraslice (formerly Graslitz) takes over the old Keilwerth factory and continues to use the Toneking and Keilwerth names
- 1949 Julius moves to Konigstrader Strasse 101
- 1955 the court decides that only Julius can use the Toneking and Keilwerth names, not Amati; production of trumpets starts around this time; they use model names "Toneking", "DeLuxe" (photo 7) & "Super DeLuxe" (some look like a copy of the King Super 20 trumpet)
- 1962 a new factory is built on the same site (photo 3); with the death of Julius, son Josef (1919-1982) takes over
- 1982 with the death of Josef, nephew Gerhard (1945-2012) takes over
- 1985 the Jazzophon is made in the mid-1980s (photo 6)
- 1989 Keilwerth is purchased by Boosey & Hawkes and trumpet production is cut to concentrate on saxophones only; some later trumpets may have been made by Blessing
- 1996 Keilwerth is merged with Schreiber
- 2003 business is sold to The Music Group
- 2006 Schreiber & Keilwerth becomes independent and production is moved to Markneukirchen
- 2010 S&K is bankrupt and purchased by Buffet Crampon

Stencil horns made for the US market include "Royalist" and "Superba" (photo 4) models for Herbert Couf, "Hamilton" model for Grossman Music, and "La Sete" model sold in southern California

For more details on Keilwerth history visit <http://marge.home.xs4all.nl/Keilwerth.htm>; photos from Keilwerth website and auction sales

