

Vega Power Special Trumpets

1945 – 1960s

The earliest ad that I have found for the Power Special trumpets is this one at right from September of 1947. These had a completely different design compared to the pre-WWII Power model and may have been stencils made for Vega in Elkhart.

1948 ad showcasing the Stan Kenton trumpet section.

STAN KENTON SENDS 'EM
with his NEW VEGA TRUMPET SECTION

Winner of POPULARITY POLL!
TAKES CARNEGIE BY STORM!
PACKS HOLLYWOOD BOWL!
Introduces NEW MUSIC CONCEPT!
TRUMPET SECTION USES ONLY
THE NEW VEGA POWER TRUMPET!

TERRIFIC BRASS HITS NEW HIGH IN POPULARITY!

Al Persina
Buddy Childers
Ray Mervel
Ed Hanna
Chick Albers

Says Stan Kenton, "I prefer the new Vega Power Model Trumpet designed by Fred Berman, because its new flexibility means added versatility, more power and easier playing!"
Pick one up at your dealer and see what we mean by VEGA POWER DOMINANCE!

STAN KENTON CONFERS WITH FRED BERMAN, NEW VEGA POWER TRUMPET.

VEGA CO. 159 COLUMBUS AVE.
BOSTON 18, MASS.



Follow the Stars!

with your New VEGA Power TRUMPET

Here is what you have been waiting for . . . the New VEGA Power Trumpet—stand-out for power. Take the first call and hit the high notes with perfect intonation and clarity.

Stars are collecting fans and swing lovers with the New VEGA Power Trumpet . . . its unlimited range and quick response "sends 'em" on the catchy tunes.

If you want to stand out in the band, play on a stand-out . . . the New VEGA Power Trumpet, and follow the stars.

ASK YOUR DEALER OR
SEND FOR YOUR NEW VEGA TRUMPET FOLDER
ALL YOU WANT TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR VEGA POWER TRUMPET—ILLUSTRATED
Drop a card to:
Sales Dept., THE VEGA CO., Boston 18, Mass.

VEGA CO. BOSTON, MASS.



Power model #38509 c.1945 (5 photos below & at right).



This model begins the final era of Vega brass instruments and the uncertainty of when and by whom these were actually made. The serial number of 38xxx would suggest that this was made in 1938, yet it is unlikely that this style of Power model would have been made at the same time as the earlier one.

The closest match that I have found for the valve style is the early Signet model trumpets made by Blessing for H&A Selmer of Elkhart.

Here is Selmer Signet trumpet #3535 in comparison.



Another Signet trumpet #3800.



Since Blessing was an earlier supplier of valves for Vega, it would follow that they later would make complete horns.

It is said that the first Signet brass were made in 1940.

Fred Berman Power model #39581 (below & 2nd at right).



Power Special #46405



Power Special #55542 (c.1951 if a Blessing serial #)



Power Special #67777 (below & bottom right)



c.1954 if a Blessing serial #



FRED BERMAN, popular radio staff star, probably the busiest trumpet player and teacher in Boston. Member of the Committee.



November 1949 ad from Internation Musician showcasing use of the new Power model by Fats Navarro and Miles Davis.



Fats and Miles Bop on Vega Bandwagon. New York —Boppers Fats Navarro, left, and Miles Davis, center, compare notes on their new VEGA POWER TRUMPETS as Kai Winding looks on. Fats is currently with Errol Garner's great new combo. Miles' cool trumpet on his latest Capitol recording, "Boplicity," was one reason for Mike Levin's rating it "tops." Write today for your free copy of "The Power Trumpet." The Vega Company, 155 Columbus Avenue, Boston 16, Mass.



Power Special #73348



c.1956 if a Blessing serial #

December 1949 Power model ad with Conte Candoli.



"HA?" Conte's Vega Powered! New York—That's right, Charlie, Conte's new VEGA POWER TRUMPET is as sensational as your great new Victor recording, "HA", flipped with "High on an Open Mike." Trumpeters, there's plenty of Candoli on both sides! By the way, have you sent for your free copy of "The Power Trumpet"? Better write today to The Vega Company, 155 Columbus Avenue, Boston 16, Massachusetts.

This January 1950 ad from International Musician shows the Power model played by Don Fagerquist and claims that Miles plays one exclusively.



Artie plus Fagerquist plus Vega...POWER!!!

Chicago — There's no doubt about it, Artie Shaw's new crew is great! There's no doubt, either, that plenty of the band's punch comes from brilliant trumpeter Don Fagerquist's VEGA Power Model. Like his favorite star, Miles Davis, Don plays a VEGA exclusively. Write today for your free copy of "The Power Trumpet". The Vega Company, 157 Columbus Avenue, Boston 16, Massachusetts.

Power Special #97525 (c.1960 if a Blessing serial #)



Vega closed their factory at #155 Columbus Ave (photo 1) in 1961 and moved to #40 Leon St (now Northeastern University). It's doubtful that any brass was actually made by Vega after this time.