

Bullet Radio



Rare Catalin Fada 1000 Bullet Radio

Description:

Vintage Fada 1000 bullet-style radio made of Catalin (material similar to Bakelite). It has aged into a lovely butterscotch color. The bottom of the radio is a lighter yellow and also has the radio's only flaw, an "X" that has been scratched into the surface.

Although very clean, it could still use a bit of work, but I would prefer to leave that to you. To the best of my knowledge, every part of it is original and in pristine condition, except the plug which was replaced with another one from the same era. No burns, chips, gouges, cracks, repairs. Knobs are original as is the handle. The fabric behind the grill is clean, spotless, and flawless. It measures 6" high (not including the handle) x 10 3/8" long x 5 1/8" deep.

Winning Bid:

\$1,125.00

Ended: 8/06

History: 33 bids

Starting Bid: \$99

Winner: Belgium

Viewed

000256 X

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Annette's Story (eBay ID: pdrost)

I come from a long line of collectors and, of course, have the bug myself. For as long as I can remember, my parents have collected one thing or another, including spooners, tools, and bottles. Living in rural Ohio, my father has always attended estate and garage sales as well as farm auctions, bringing home box lots of all sizes and shapes.

One day in 1963, Dad stopped at a nearby moving sale and bought the most hideous floor lamp ever created – a monstrous design made of opaque white Lucite. The side panels were made of patterned fiberglass which housed a fluorescent tube that emitted an eerie bluish-white glow. The front of the lamp had a built-in planter, ready for your favorite plastic houseplant, which was all the rage at the time. The whole thing was topped off with a gigantic square fringed lampshade. Of course my older brothers and I, along with Dad, thought it was fantastic! Mom, however, was less than pleased with Dad's sense of decorating style. Nevertheless, it did occupy a place in our living room for more years than Mom would probably have preferred. The lamp was sold a few years later to another unsuspecting soul with bad taste. Fortunately, we had preserved the memory through photographs. The one below is one that Mom recently mailed to me, knowing my affection for that lamp. On the back of the photo, she had titled it, The Lady and the Lamp. I am glad to see she still has a sense of humor over the situation. How I wish that lamp was around now as I know how well it would sell on eBay!

Whenever Dad attends an auction or garage sale, he cannot stand to see

something sell for less than its worth and ends up buying it himself. This has resulted in quite an accumulation of goods in my parents' basement. In 1998 I discovered eBay and we finally found the perfect outlet for all the treasures my now-retired Dad toted home. Over the years we have sold just about everything imaginable including fountain pens, pocket knives, advertising items, antique glassware, old books, art prints, and post cards. Lately I have started going to garage sales myself and have my own accumulation of inventory, the result of which has been my eBay store, Elmwood Cottage Collectibles. Dad continues to seek out bargains and has a good understanding of the eBay market. It is not unusual for him to call me to research items so he can establish his bidding strategy.

One item in particular stands out as probably the best sale we ever made on eBay. It was a vintage Fada radio that Dad bought at a local garage sale in 2003. He paid what the gentleman asked - \$5.00. The plug had been cut off (an easy fix for Dad) and the seller told him that he could not guarantee that it would work (it did!). Knowing nothing about vintage radios, I did some research which included learning the difference between Bakelite and Catalin. I listed it in a 10-day auction with a starting bid of \$99. When the questions started rolling in, I knew we had something special. When it was all said and done, the radio sold for \$1,125.00 to a collector in Belgium. Nice return on investment!

Yes, the money Dad and I earn on eBay with his basement inventory is nice, but a 49-year-old daughter having a hobby with her 78-year-old Dad... priceless!