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Appraised by: Chris Mattoon

## Appraisal of Value

Instrument Manufacturer	Rogers Drum Company
Year of Manufacture	1962
Model	Dynasonic
Size	5"X14"
Finish	White Marine Pearl
Serial Number / Interior Stamp	1685

### Historical Overview:

Rogers introduced the Dynasonic in 1961 after years of research and development. These early drums were built on the success of the "Holiday" model drums, and as such featured the same three ply maple/poplar shells with three ply reinforcing rings. To this, Rogers added 10 self aligning lugs, the Rogers "Swiv-a-matic" strainer, triple flange counterhoops, and a standard internal muffler. Snare drums came in a variety of wraps and finishes, while the interiors of these wood shell drums were stained and lacquered. This interior finish was referred to as "Fruitwood".

The defining piece of these drums, however, was the snare system. Snare wires were held under constant tension on a metal frame that was suspended below the drum. Tension itself could be changed via a thumbscrew attaching the wires to the frame on one side. The entire cage was then strung to the throw-off and buttplate, so that the actuation of the throw-off would raise and lower the cage.

The result was less upward pressure on the resonant head, leading to a more freely vibrating membrane even with snares activated. Rogers described the drum as having "pinpoint definition, power without distortion, choke-free sound, perfect feel, and complete head response". The drum listed for \$150.00 in 1962.

This design was wildly successful for Rogers, who continued the Dynasonic well into the 1980's in various forms. Today, Rogers is a revived company again producing Dynasonic snare drums.

Condition and Observations:

This is a fine example of a very early wood shell Dynasonic snare drum. The hardware is in excellent condition with very little wear or pitting. The drawn brass lugs, so prone to cracking and breaking, are absolutely intact and damage-free. The tension rods are original and complete with original accompanying washers. The snare cage is a first generation design, specific to these first 1000 or so drums off the production line. It is also original and complete, including the elastic ties used to keep the cage from bouncing and vibrating when the snares are turned off. The interior is in excellent shape, displaying the typical "Fruitwood" stain and lacquer. As expected, this drum never had a paper tag as is present on most other Rogers lines. The "Dynasonic" badge is original and mounting is unmolested. The wrap is a very clean example of White Marine Pearl, tight to the shell with no seam lift. Bearing edges are clean and factory, and the shell shows no signs of modification or damage. The batter and snare side heads are factory original.

Appraised Value:

Sales of Rogers Dynasonic snare drums in general are well documented on the open market, however the value of this drum comes from the age of the instrument and the originality. Early snare drums like this, with first-generation features such as the snare cage and shell composition, are less common. This is a point furthered by the originality of the drum, including the elastic ties, cage bumper ends, and drumheads, making this snare a rare example of the instrument. Recent sales of similar instruments include a very comparable drum in July 2023 sold on Reverb.com for \$2500.00. One instrument in a different finish, although equally as popular as white marine pearl, is listed for sale on [reverb.com](https://www.reverb.com) for \$2300.00 at the time of this appraisal. Private sales include two similar drums sold between collectors for \$2500.00 each on distinct occasions. While the value of later model Dynasonics have taken a downward turn with the introduction of reproductions geared towards players, these high end collectable and historically significant early Dynasonic snare drums are holding steady. The appraised value of this drum is \$2600.00, given the originality and early design features.

(Appendix 1: photographs provided by owner)  
(Appendix 2: 1962 Rogers Catalog)

Chris Mattoon  
Owner  
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