“The heartthrob of our test: the [47"] Schimmel [Model] C 120 I [upright] matches the resonance characteristics of the sound-producing portion of the instrument to create a very beautiful richness of sound. This is indeed an instrument well thought out, including each key individually balanced by hand and front-rail punchings of a higher-density felt. As for the sound, the hammers are no longer provided with under felt, optimizing the voicing potential. Thus Ravel’s Sonatine reveals a suave and velvety sound, admirably relayed by an action facilitating repetition and playing with the key halfway depressed. The great dynamic diversity is well suited to the interpretation of the sonatas of Scarlatti using a playing technique close to the keys, thus showing a high regard for the spirit of the 18th century toccare, as well as that of the music of the 20th century with Debussy’s Toccata. This instrument is undoubtedly more than just a practice piano, [but is another example of] the great German piano-manufacturing tradition. — Yves Guilloux