



 **BISHOP** instruments & bows

Brochure 2013/14



Selling Instruments & Bows That Work...

We are now firmly established as one of Europe's most dynamic shops specialising in fine string instruments & bows, we have an extensive collection ranging from the world's finest contemporary craftsmen to the old masters. Our clients include students, amateurs, orchestras and professionals of all levels.

After modest beginnings in a small showroom in Mayfair in 2004, moving to a larger shop in 2007, Bishop Instruments & Bows are now in our spacious permanent premises in Hinde St, Marylebone in Central London.

Whilst not a complete listing of our stock, this brochure showcases a cross section of the level of quality that we sell in both modern and antique instruments.

"We aim to offer all customers complete personal one-to-one attention with the emphasis on finding you the right instrument or bow for your budget."

Violins

"For violins for the advanced student through to solo level quality we have what you are looking for. Our collection changes weekly and we will work with you to find you that special instrument."



Matteo Goffriller of Venice, Italy, 1696

One of the great Venetian masters of the late 17th and early 18th centuries, Goffriller is noted for his fine reddish varnish, seen to beautiful effect on this violin's back. Built on a smaller model this violin possesses a full tone and is in excellent condition. Fully certified.



Pierre Silvestre of Lyon, France, 1857

Built during Silvestre's finest period, this is a truly stunning example of his best work. Smooth even tone and at 1/3 of the price of a Vuillaume, this will be a great investment.

GB Guadagnini of Parma, Italy, 1767

A very fine and solo quality violin made by one of the greats of violin making. Beautiful one piece back (Shown on front page) and in good condition. This is a violin suitable for all levels of violin playing, Solo, Chamber or Orchestra. Very rare. Fully certified.



Cesare Candi of Genoa, Italy, 1924

Regarded as one of the finest early 20th century makers, this violin combines style and power. Perhaps the finest example we have seen.



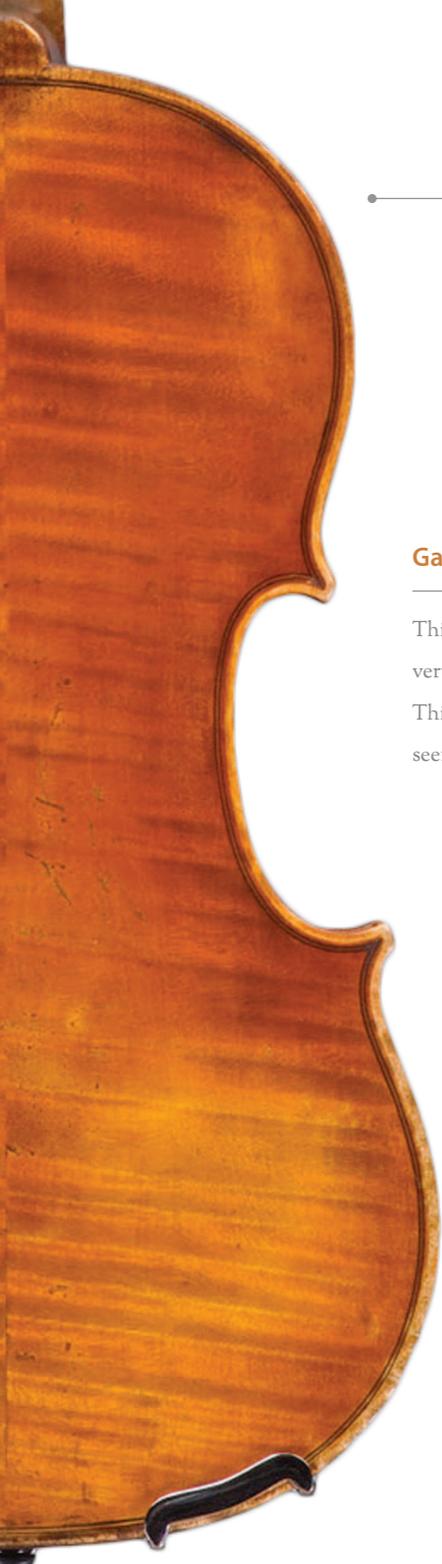
Antonio Gagliano of Naples, Italy, 1845

Antonio usually made violins with his brother, however this is a rare solo work. Excellent condition and strong tone



JB Vuillaume of Paris, France, 1862

This very fine Del Gesu copy shows off JBV's skill in mixing a copy and his own unique style. We have been lucky to sell quite a number of great Vuillaumes in the past few years and usually have a Stradivari and Guarneri copy in stock.



Ferdinando Gariboldi of Milan, Italy, 1923

Ferdinando Gariboldi is without doubt one of the best twentieth century makers, if not the best. This is a very rare violin, fully certified. It's a work of art! Excellent sound and rare.

Gand & Bernadel of Paris, France, 1881

This famous firm produced a large number of very well made string instruments & bows. This later example is one of the best we have seen and tonally very fine.



Celeste Farotti of Milan, Italy, 1901

On the label Farotti mentions this violin being based on a Stradivari model. Known as a maker whom made great sounding violins this is a real treat. Strong tone and subtle.



Violas

"We are the major viola dealer in Europe. As an ex-violist I have a special interest and expertise and as we know , every violist has a different idea of sound and size. Please let us know your special needs and we will be quick to help."





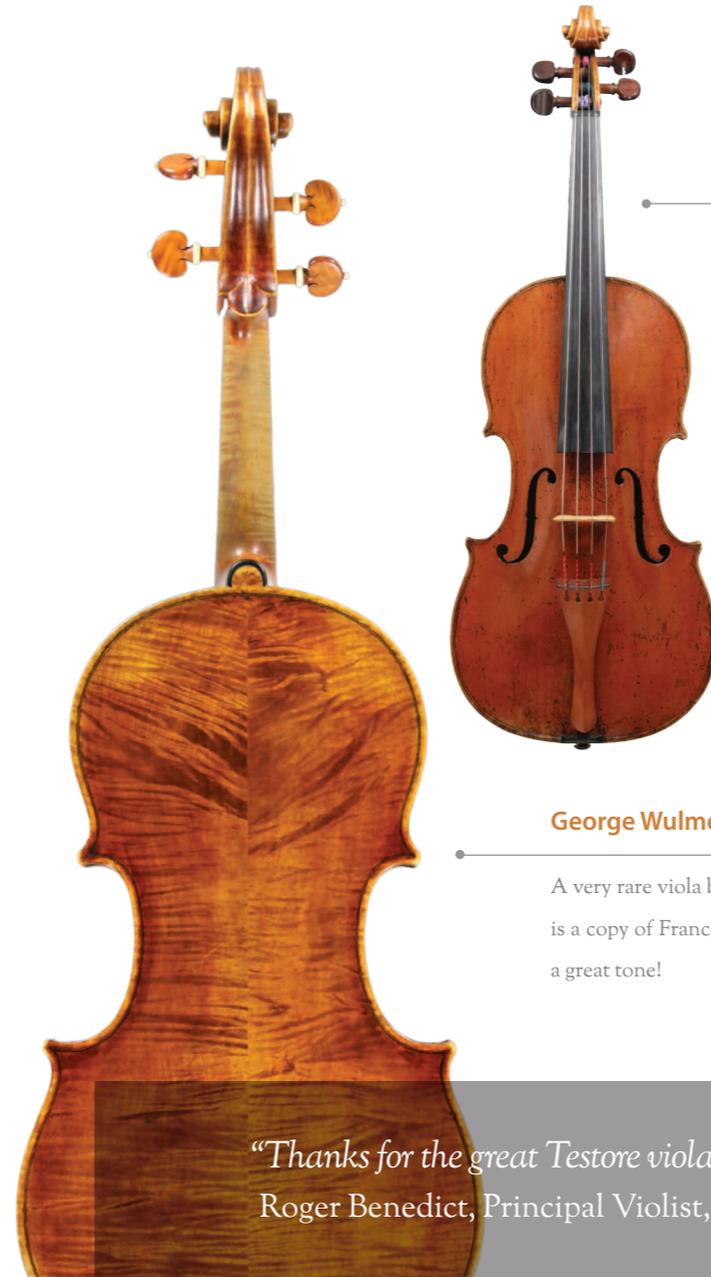
Alessandro Gagliano of Naples, Italy, 1710, 42.4cm

A very rare viola with major history. JB Vuillaume, perhaps regarded as the greatest dealer, maker and innovator of his time, was involved in a rather shady deal with this instrument. With a new scroll and F hole redesign by J.Lott of London, JBV went on to sell this viola as the only viola by 'Del Gesu' in existence!

Sold for a huge sum to a French collector it was only in the early 20th Century that W.E.Hill & Sons declared 'Alessandro Gagliano' upon seeing the viola. For the past 30 years it has been the instrument for an important UK String quartet violist.

Giacomo Rivolta of Milan, Italy, 1816, 41.2cm

Very fine Milanese viola from this interesting and talented maker. The perfect size for all, this is a viola suitable for soloist or chamber musician.



Joseph Hill of London, UK, 1774, 40cm

One of the great London makers of the 18th Century this is a viola suitable for the smaller hand. Great C string with plenty of power. Reasonably priced.

George Wulme-Hudson of London, UK, 1931, 41.3cm

A very rare viola by one of the great early 20th century copyists. This is a copy of Francesco Ruggieri, perfect size, mint condition and has a great tone!



"Thanks for the great Testore viola you found for me Sean, it is the finest I have played!"

Roger Benedict, Principal Violist, Sydney Symphony Orchestra



NF Vuillaume of France, 1863, 41.1cm

Brother of JB, Nicolas Francois was also a very talented maker that settled in Brussels for most of his making life. This viola is a fine example, based on a Maggini model, it gives great power yet with a small stop it is suitable for violists of all sizes. Mint condition.



Iginus Sderci of Florence, Italy, 1967, 41cm

Sderci was a meticulous maker whom bridged the makers of the “Modern” Italian school with today's contemporary makers. This is a very fine viola showing a very fine hand at the age of 83.

HC Silvestre of Paris, France, 1890

Mint condition French viola by one of the great late 19th century makers. Stradivari copy with a golden red varnish. People often put down French violas, but this viola is in a different league. Great sounding.



Cellos

“We always stock a fine selection of new and antique instruments. Of course being established in London we ensure that we have on hand some great English cellos from Fendt to the Hill family and a few fine Italian cellos in the upper price range.”





Gand Frere of Paris, France, 1856

Charles Adlophe and his brother Charles NE Gand made this cello in 1856 as the prize for the most gifted student/graduate of the Paris Conservatoire, Rene Douay and his name is printed on the ribs of this cello. Great French cello.

William Forster of London, UK, c1785

English cellos have always been held in high esteem and this cello is a fine example why! Made by Forster Snr, this cello has the classic full dark tone and beautiful dark red varnish associated with this period.



Henry Lockey Hill of London, UK, c1790-1800

Very fine example of this makers work. Famous for his cellos this instrument would suit the smaller hand having been built on a smaller model.

William Luff MBE of London, UK, 1966

One of the great 20th Century English makers this is the only cello he made. Based on a Domenico Montagnana of 1733. A piece of history, this cello is in mint condition and has a full solo tonal quality.



Bows



“Bows are a real passion of mine. They are more affordable than instruments and very interesting to compare. In the past 8 years we have bought and sold over 500 bows.”

A violin bow by **E Sartory**, c1925, 61g

Sartory is considered the greatest 20th Century maker and his bows are held in high esteem by players and collectors. This is a mint example from 1925, stamped 3 times! We always have a Sartory in stock.



A violin bow by **V Fétique**, c1920, 61g

A very fine example of this prolific French master. Fétique bows always seems to work and this bow in no exception.



A violin bow by **WE Hill & Sons**, c1910-20, 58g

This violin bow is a fine example of British bow making from one of the finest shops. Mounted in gold and tortoiseshell with the fleur-de-lys, this top Hill model is in great condition. We always have Hill bows in stock.



A violin bow by **JA Lamy**, c1890, 60g

Lamy bows are pure class. Always elegant and with this bow being a great weight and strength..its a winning combination. Lamy was the teacher of Sartory.



A violin bow by **N Maline**, 1855, 61g

Very fine and rare MINT example of one of the greatest 19th Century French masters. This bow has everything, strength, sound, power...wow!



A viola bow by **JA Lamy**, c1890, 71g

What a great bow. Plays like a dream and strong. Previously owned by a fine London violist now retired whom used it with his Guadagnini viola.



A viola bow by **JJ Millant**, c1970

A very fine example from one of the leaders of the new French bowmakers of the second half of the 20th century. I met Millant in 1994, making bows in his Paris studio...he had a big waiting list then! We have sold many examples.



A viola bow by **J Tubbs**, c1870, 68g

Very rare chased gold mounted bow. These viola bows always work, what a sound they produce. We usually have a silver example in stock also.

A viola bow by **E Sartory**, c1920, 71g

A near mint example of this fine maker's best work. We usually always have a Sartory viola bow in stock and have sold many around the world in the past 10 years. These viola bows work.



A cello bow by **CC Husson**, c1890, 79g

Quite a rare bowmaker, Husson bows are always appreciated by musicians for their playability. A nice example.



A violin bow by **EA Ouchard**, 1940, 69g

A very fine, mint example of great Parisian bow making at its best. Gold and Tortoiseshell. Ouchard fils bows are now being recognised as equal to Sartory and cheaper(!). One of my favourite bows.



A cello bow by **L Gillet**, c1950, 80g

Gillet worked for Sartory for over 10 years and this influence is usually seen in all his bows. Very strong stick but able to produce a smooth sound.

Some of Our Customers...



"We recommend Sean Bishop for any Orchestra or Ensemble for his help, knowledge and enthusiasm for fine instruments."

Aernout Kerbert
Director, Sydney Symphony Orchestra



"Sean, thank you for helping my students with Italian violins in the past few years! The quality and trade opportunities is great!"

Peter Herresthal,
Solo Violinist, Prof NMG & RCM



"I bought my beautiful Capicchioni from Sean in 2008. I would not have found such an instrument without him."

Jon Thorne
Violist, Badke Quartet, Prof RAM



"I bought an beautiful early 19th century Italian violin from Sean and I thank him for his clarity and professionalism."

Darragh Morgan
The Smith Quartet & The Fidelio Trio



"Sean Bishop's shop should be the first port of call for all viola players, always a fine selection of instruments and bows."

Paul Silverthorne
Principal Violist, London Symphony



"Sean, thank you so much for finding me this great Brothers Gagliano violin! And now I've added a fine Sartory from your collection!"

Jonathan Stone
Violinist, Doric Quartet

"As an amateur, I initially felt a little wary and overawed especially as it was quite a big deal for me, and so I much appreciated Sean's friendly welcome and patience."

Terry Goodhill

Proudly Supporting...



Windsor International String Competition

Now in its 4th year, Sean has been heavily involved in the founding of this now prestigious and unique competition for string players. We'd recommend all aspiring solo string players to enter! Cash prizes, Concerto and performance opportunities and a fine new bow from our collection!



Berkshire Maestros

BM run youth music throughout Berkshire, Children from 3 years up to the late teens. My children are all involved!



Chamber Music in Little Venice

A new Chamber music concert series which is hosted by the Parish of Little Venice based in West London.



Arpeggione

Arpeggione are a fantastic group that run viola camps, concerts etc. As an ex-violist I love to help these guys!



Wigmore Hall London International String Quartet Competition

This year we helped support the "new piece" prize. One of the best String competitions in the world.

Representing Makers from Around the World

New Instrument Makers

There is a renaissance in new instrument making and the standard is as good as anything in the last 250 years. I am regularly seeing and playing instruments that inspire me.

At Bishop Instrument & Bows we always want our customers to leave us wholeheartedly satisfied. Try our selection of new makers instruments and if you like one, take it home for a trial. We offer 100% trade up so you can put your purchase from us towards an instrument of greater value in the future.

We usually have violins, violas and the occasional Cello (new Italian instruments available from £6000) by these fine makers:

- Paul Collins (France)
- Melvin Goldsmith (UK)
- Alessandro Ciciliati (Italy)
- Maurizio Tadioli (Italy)
- Andrea Verazzani (Italy)
- Marcello Villa (Italy)
- Yann Besson (France)
- David Rattray (UK)
- Tetsuo Matsuda (USA)

New Bow Makers

New bow making really excites me and I seem to be constantly buying great new bows. Today's makers have great wood and coupled with seemingly amazing bow making skills, well it all adds up to a great bow!

Price wise they also represent amazing value when compared to any older bows. The bow makers I represent have between them garnered every major bow making competition in the world, boasting over 15 gold medals.

We usually have bows in stock by the following makers:

- Noel Burke (Ireland)
- Gary Leahy (Ireland)
- Paul Sadka (UK)
- Jean-Pascal Nehr (France)
- Pierre Guillaume (Belgium)
- Jean Luc Tauziede (France)
- Pierre Nehr (France)
- Sylvain Bigot (France)
- Yannick le Canu (France)
- Morgan Anderson (USA)



"Sean Bishop is a dealer of bows and instruments by contemporary makers...he is a real specialist"
The Times



A Message from Sean Bishop, Company Director

After studying violin and viola in Australia and the UK I worked with all the London's finest orchestras including English Chamber Orchestra, The Philharmonia, BBC Symphony and the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra.

Throughout my musical life I have had a passion for string instruments. I was fortunate when growing up to almost live next door to two violin shops and it was this daily contact that influenced me to study all aspects of violin makers and bows as well as pursuing some violin making of my own.

I have a special interest in the modern Italian school of making (Pedrazzini, Fagnola, Scarampella, Ornati, Garimberti etc) as well as the instruments of JB Vuillaume. Bows are a large part of my business and my selection of new makers is perhaps the finest in the world and of course the great French masters feature in my dealing career.

I have been a regular contributor of articles on instruments & bows to "The Strad" magazine, newspapers and books as well as featuring on numerous television shows as the violin expert

including "Put your money where your mouth is" and "Storage Hoarders".

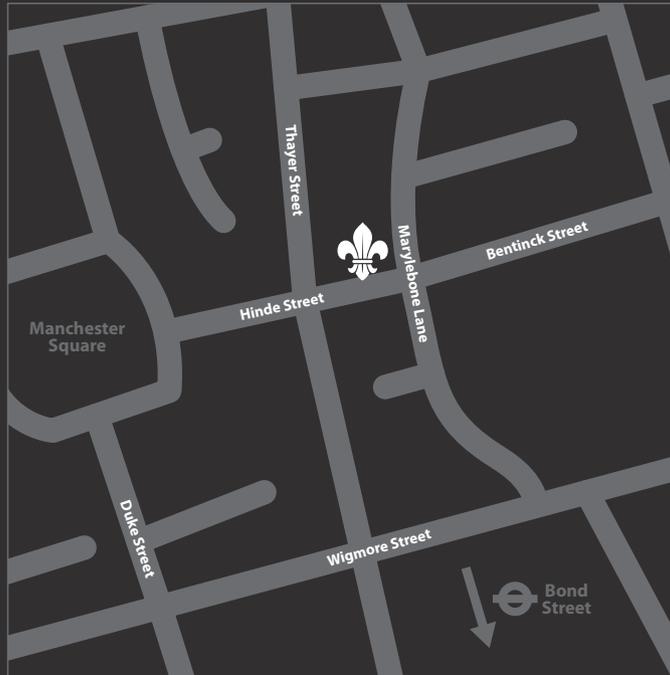
My aim is to give all my clients the one-to-one personal service and I take great pleasure in finding you the right instrument or bow for your needs. As a professional musician I am able to play all of my instruments to make sure they are up to the exact standard required by today's students, amateurs and professionals.

After establishing Bishops in 2004 we relocated to 2 Hinde Street, a fantastic location in central London with two large showrooms enabling

visitors to try instruments in a larger space. With an extensive collection ranging from the world's finest contemporary craftsmen to the old masters Stradivari and Guaragnini, our clients include students, amateurs and professionals of all levels.

Sean Bishop

Established 2004



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