



 **BISHOP** instruments & bows

Brochure 2016/17



# Selling Instruments & Bows That Work...My Passion

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Selling instruments and bows for me is not a job, it is my passion which I want to share with all my clients. I offer a one-to-one service to help you find a new instrument or bow that will help you play better. It's that simple.

I have had my central London showrooms for over 10 years, and in that time we have sold over 1000 instruments and bows to musicians of all levels, young players, college students, amateurs, professionals, soloists, collectors and orchestras.

This brochure showcases a representative cross section of the level of quality that we sell in both modern and antique instruments and bows and is by no means a complete listing of our stock.

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“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.”

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Call me direct **+44 (0)7905344220** or email [sean@bishopstrings.com](mailto:sean@bishopstrings.com)

# Violins

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**J.B. Vuillaume**, Paris, France, 1868. Guarneri del Gesu copy

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This violin just gets it right. It is not overly antique in style yet subtle enough to have the appearance of age. Vuillaume was without doubt the genius of the 19th century violin making world. This violin sounds fantastic! We usually always have a JBV in stock.



**Giacomo Zanoli**, Verona, Italy, 1737

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A very rare and fine example of this great Italian master. As you can see by the back picture, it is a violin of true beauty. Sounds great also. Fully certified and priced keenly to sell!



**Giuseppe Ornati**, Milan, Italy, 1927

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An extremely rare G.Rocca copy made by one of the finest 20th century makers. Included with this violin is a letter from the maker and of course up to date certificates. Ornati is one of my favourite makers and his violins are sought after by collectors and musicians alike. This violin has the wow factor.



**Stefano Scarpella**, Mantua, Italy 1906

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Scarpella is regarded as perhaps the last of the "great" late 19th century makers. Not modern in style, this is a violin with power. Excellent condition and just look at that great red varnish.

**Charles Boullangier**, London, England, 1870

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Trained in Paris, worked in London. I love this violin for its precise French workmanship but it has something extra from his London workshop. The best of both! If this violin was made in Italy it would cost a fortune....but it's not and thus doesn't. Big tone.



**Joseph Gagliano**, Naples, Italy, c1780.

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A very fine example of the son and pupil of Nicolo Gagliano. This violin is built on the Nicolo model with a very fine two-piece back.



**Camillus Camilli**, Mantua, Italy, 1739

Mixing the styles of Amati and P. Guarneri this is a truly beautiful and refined violin. This one-piece back is covered in the most delicate yellow varnish. A real stunner. Sounds good too!



**Giovanni Pistucci**, Naples, Italy c1920/30

Pistucci was one of the great early 20th century makers from Naples and his Gagliano copies have often been mistaken for the originals. This is a more straight example, in mint condition with a powerful tone.



**Igino Sderci**, Florence, Italy, 1924.

With very fine workmanship this Amati inspired Sderci is a true work of art. Beautiful one-piece back, this particular violin is featured in a well know violin makers book. Great value.





**Giulio Degani**, Montagnana, Italy, 1896

The Degani family have a big place in my heart. My first serious viola was a G. Degani. This example is a very pure violin of his. The scroll is also his calling card... I just love the deep volutes.

**Daniele Tonarelli**, Cremona, Italy, 2015

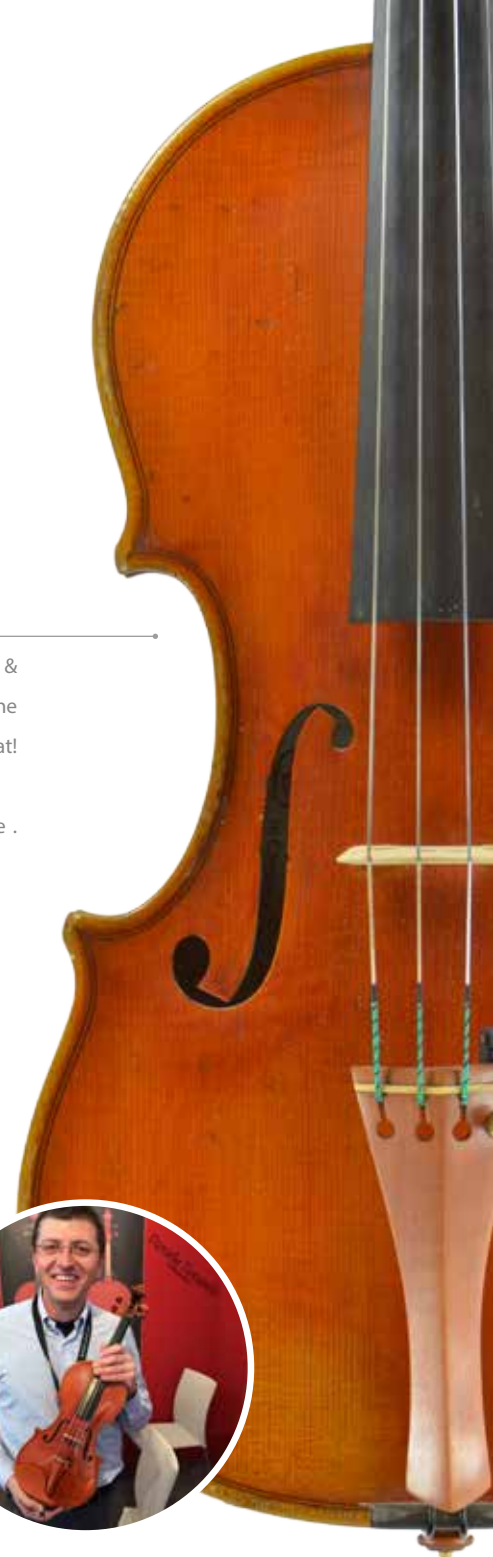
One of the many fine makers that Bishop Instruments & Bows represent, this fine Guadagnini copy has just the perfect amount of old and new look to it. It sounds great!

We usually have around 20 new Italian violins for sale . Why order one when you can try here before you buy?



**Ferdinando Garimberti**, Milano, Italy 1965

Very fine violin by Ferdinand Garimberti, Milan, 1965. Garimberti is regarded as one of the finest 20th century makers and this violin is a great reason why. Perfect workmanship coupled with a great tone. His instruments are becoming very rare and sought after.





# Violin Bows

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At Bishop instruments & bows we have one of the largest bow collections in the world. With over 200 bows in the £500-£25 000 price range we will have a bow for you! We also stock bows from the world's finest living makers and usually have at least 30 available. No need to order from a maker... just come and try here.



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A violin bow by **N. Maline**, c1850 60

An extremely fine and rare example of this great French master. 19th century bows in this condition are getting harder to find. The sound they produce is something all musicians should try!

A violin bow by **V. Fetique**, c1920, 61g

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With a large workshop, Fetique was a prolific maker, who always kept a high standard of work. We have 8 Fetique bows in stock including this mint example.



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A violin bow by **E. Sartory** c1911, 60g

Sartory is considered the greatest 20th century maker and his bows are held in high esteem by players and collectors. This is a rare example made for the violin maker Darche of Brussels. We always have Sartory violin bows in stock.

A violin bow by **J.A. Vigneron** c1890 62g

Vigneron bows are always sought after by musicians. This is a strong example with very beautiful chocolate pernumbuco wood. A fine example.



A violin bow by **F.N. Voirin** , c1880, 61g

The last of the great 19th century makers? Voirin is the maker with sublime style. If you find a bow like this one, strong and a good weight....buy it!



A violin bow by **E. Pajeot** c1820.

What a rare bow. Totally mint condition. Bows by Etienne Pajeot are highly sought after and this is a bow that does not disappoint . Strong stick.



A violin bow by **A. Chardon**, c1930/40 61g

Mounted in gold and tortoiseshell this is a rare bow by a great Parisian maker. His wood choice was first rate as this bow shows.



A violin bow by **E.A. Ouchard**, c1935 62 g

We have 5 bows by one of our favourite makers. Like Sartory, E.A. Ouchard is considered one of the finest 20th century makers. This example is in as new condition.



A violin bow by **Paul Sadka** 2015

Sadka is a good friend of our shop and we always have a large selection of his bows for sale. After winning gold medals for violin, viola & cello at the bow making competition of the Violin Society of America, Sadka is truly world class.



A violin bow by **Noel Burke**, 2015

A multiple gold medal winner at international competitions, Burke bows always work. We always have an example in stock.



A violin bow by **Pierre Nehr**, 2015

The younger brother of JP Nehr, Pierre is one of the new grade of young bow makers. Great skill and yet making bows that have great playing qualities and that look great too!



# Violas

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Our violins start at £5000.00

## **Marino Capicchioni**, Rimini, Italy, 1951

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One of the finest 20th century makers, Capicchioni is always in demand from violists. Looking at this viola you can see why! Size of 42.4cm it possesses a true solo quality of sound. At the moment we have 3 Capicchioni violas in stock. This particular viola was featured in the Strad magazine in an article I wrote.

## **Charles Boullangier**, London, England, 1888

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Mint condition. This viola is almost untouched after 130 years! And it sounds as good as it looks.

These English instruments can be seen as great value when put next to Italian instruments of the same age. Size 41.2 cm





**Giuseppe Sgarbi**, Modena, Italy, 1875, 40.4cm

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This very fine viola would seem to me as one of the last true 19th century instruments before the birth of the "Modern Italian". The golden varnish is just stunning and of course it plays as well as it looks. Wow!

**Gaetano Sgarabotto**, Milan, Italy, 1923, 40.6cm

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Sgarabotto is one of the finest Milanese makers of the early to mid 20th century. Equally adept at copies and the straight look, this is a viola with power and finesse. Only 16 inches! That's what all violists want!



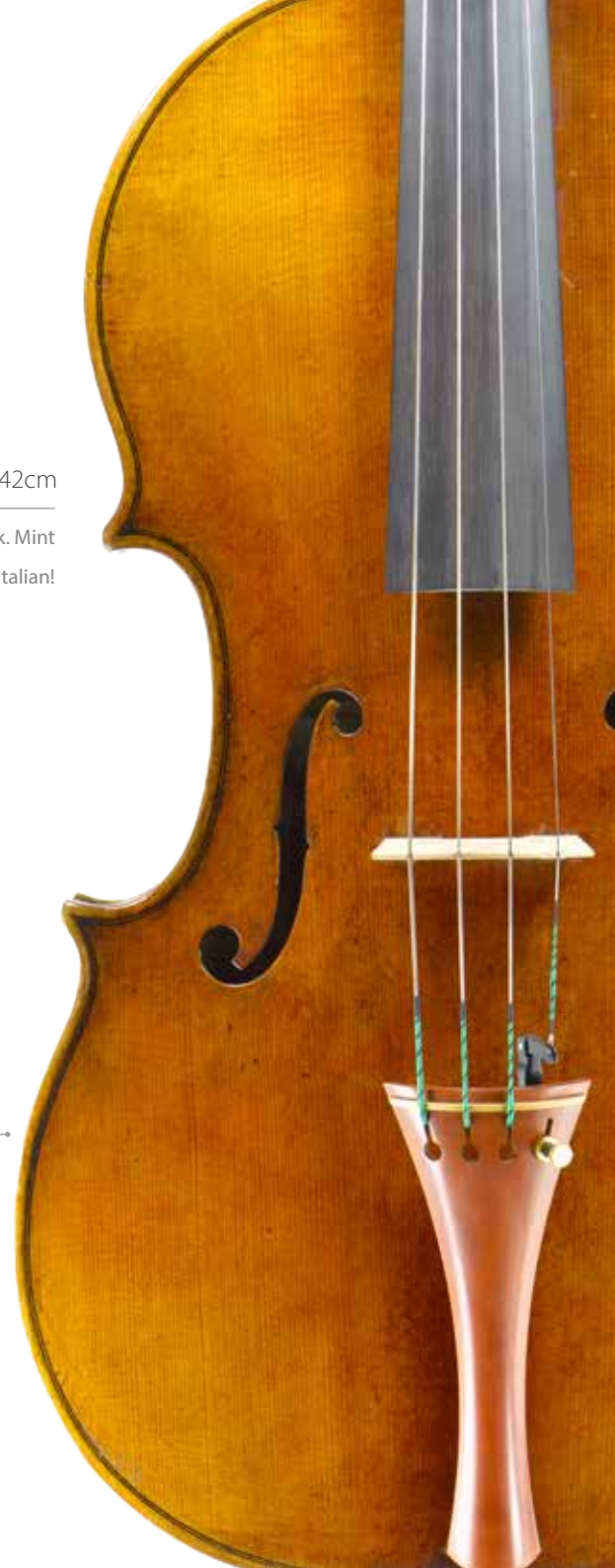


**Giacomo & Leandro Bisiach, Milan, Italy, 1967 42cm**

A very fine example of this famous family's best work. Mint condition, big strong tone. A Classic Italian!

**Maurizio Tadioli, Cremona, Italy, 2015, 42 cm**

Maurizio is a man obsessed with the old masters! This great old looking viola was made for us and is modelled after G. Gennaro of 1650. Huge tone and very smooth to play. We always try to have a Tadioli viola in stock. Along with another 10 new Italian violas!!



**G.B Guadagnini**, Milan, Italy, 1757, 41.2cm

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An extremely rare viola by this most celebrated maker. We have handled many fine violas over the years but this is the finest sounding viola we have had through the shop.

Fully certified by W.E.Hill & Sons, for many years this viola was heard in the London String Quartet, and more recently used by an international soloist in major concerto performances around the world.



# Viola Bows

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As a former violist I now have perhaps the finest viola bow collection in the world. With over 40 fine antique bows, 40 new bows from the worlds finest living makers and many bows suitable for the student, we have a viola bow for you!



A viola bow by **J.A. Lamy**, expo 1900. 69g

This bow is perhaps one of the rarest we have had. Made for the Expo of 1900 and featured in L'Archet it is in totally mint condition. Plays well too!

A viola bow by **V. Fetique**, Paris, 1925, 72g

With a large workshop, Fetique was a prolific maker, who always kept a high standard of work. We have 8 Fetique bows in stock including this mint example.







A viola bow by **W.E.Hill & Sons**, London, circa 1950

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Gold & Tortoiseshell, Fleur de lys. 69 grams. Very rare viola bow by this famous English firm. Plays like a dream with a very smooth sound.



A viola bow by **E.A. Ouchard**, New York in 1951, 73g

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Octagonal, this is a very fine and mint example of one of the greatest 20th century makers. Emile August Ouchard bows always have beauty to the eye and always work for the musician. We have 3 EA Ouchard viola bows in stock. P. Childs certificate.



A viola bow by **J.J. Millant**, Paris, 1965-70, Gold & Ivory. 70g

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This viola bow is a rare example of Jean Jacques Millant's own model. I had the lucky chance of meeting JJ Millant in 1992...I was told at the time he was France's greatest living maker.



A viola bow by **N. Maire**, Paris, 1835, 69g

Round stick. Extremely rare viola bow by one of the greatest 19th century bow makers. Perfect.

A viola bow by **E. Sartory**, Paris, 1930, 71g

Silver mounted. We currently have 2 Sartory viola bows and like all Sartory bows...they just work. Always a great investment.



A viola bow by **Gary Leahy**, Ireland, 2015, gold mounted 72g

Leahy is a multiple gold medal winner at all the major competitions for bow making. We just love his bows. So do musicians. Violin, viola and cello bows in gold or silver always in stock.



# Cellos

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## **Lorenzo Ventapane**, Naples, Italy, c1820

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Instruments from Naples always sound good! Maybe that's overstating it however, most do! This cello is a great example of the maker's best work, always slightly rustic but with personality. Suitable for a cellist of any standard.

## **Gustave Bernardel**, Paris, France, 1890

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The last member of the fine Bernardel family, this is a cello that is so well made... on all levels. Big tone, in excellent condition, previously owned by Douglas Cummings, the late principal of the London Symphony Orchestra in the 1970's.





**John & Arthur Betts**, London, England, c1795

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English cellos have always been highly thought of by musicians and this cello is no exception. Big tone, excellent condition. Highly recommended.

**Giuseppe Arré**, Cremona, Italy

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After working as a professional violinist, Giuseppe studied violin making in Parma and now has a workshop in Cremona. We have sold a number of his cellos. Beautiful workmanship combined with a great tone!



# Cello Bows

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A cello bow by **Charles Alfred Bazin**, France, c1960 80g

Charles Bazin was the last in line of the famous French bow making dynasty stretching back over 100 years. This bow is a fine example of his best work, strong for any level of playing and still affordable by today's prices!



A cello bow by **F.N. Voirin**, France, c1880 77g

The bows of Voirin are considered as amongst the most beautiful ever made. This bow is no exception. 77 grams but strong!





A cello bow by **Paul Sadka**, UK, 2016, 80g

Sadka is one of our favourite living makers and we always have silver and gold mounted examples of his best work in stock. As an ex cellist these bows work, and of course having also won the Gold medal for his cello bowmaking (and violin and viola!) in the Violin Society of America competition gives way to these facts!

A cello bow by **Pierre Nehr**, Paris, 2015, 80g

Pierre comes from a family of bow makers and we love his skill and workmanship. Gold and silver bows always available.



A cello bow by **Robert Morrow**, USA, 2014

A multiple Gold medal winning bowmaker at the VSA competitions, we love his work for its sheer energy and perfect workmanship.



 **BISHOP** instruments & bows

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Violin

Viola

Cello

Bow

Violin

Viola

Cello

Bow

 BISHOP

# Representing Makers

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## 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 Varazzani (Italy)
- Marcello Villa (Italy)
- David Rattray (UK)
- Tetsuo Matsuda (USA)
- Daniele Tonarelli (Italy)
- Adriano Spadoni (Italy)
- Filippo Fasser (Italy)
- Giuseppe Arre (Italy)
- Fabrizio Fratocchi (Italy)
- Paul Noulet (France)
- Jan Bartos (France)
- Marco Piccinotti (Italy)
- Daniele Scolari (Italy)
- Thomas Meuwissen (Belgium)
- Frederic Chaudiere (France)
- Roberto Collini (Italy)



## 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)
- Ole Kanestrom (USA)
- Lee Guthrie (USA)
- Pascal Camurat (France)
- Emmanuel Begin (Canada)
- Emmanuel Carlier (France)





# Over 50 brand new instruments always in stock

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We always have a large selection of new instruments in stock from the World's finest makers. Why order a new violin (or viola or cello!) when you can try here first! And we always offer trade up of 100% in the future against anything we sell.





# Our Customers

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*"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 are great!"*

**Peter Herresthal**, Solo Violinist,  
Prof NMG & RCM



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

**Jon Thorne**, Violist, Badke Quartet  
Prof of RAM



*"Thank you for my new bow...what a great selection you have"*

**Tasmin Little**, International Violin  
Soloist



*"Thank you for helping me find this remarkable JB Vuillaume. It fits so well with the quartet!"*

**Julian Leaper**, Lead violinist, Maggini  
Quartet



*"Thank you for finding me the fine Alessandro Gagliano viola!"*

**Wolfgang Talirz**, The Berlin  
Philharmonic

# Proudly Supporting

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## 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 would recommend all aspiring string players to enter! Cash prizes, concerto and performance opportunities and a fine new bow from our collection!



## Berkshire Maestros

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



## Arpeggione

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



## New Italian violas in London Exhibition

During November 1-21 2016 we will be showcasing the finest new Italian viola makers in an exhibition of over 40 Italian violas. All will be available to play and to buy if you want! One of the only chances to ever play so many great new violas in one spot.



Sean Bishop & Michael Shakespeare  
Owner of Bishop Strings & Restorer



Martin Sonnenberg  
In-House Restorer



Jutta Walcher  
Bow Restorer



Melody Greene  
Personal Assistant



# About Sean Bishop

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"After studying violin and viola in Australia and the UK I worked with 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 stringed instruments. I was fortunate when growing up I lived only a few doors from 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, Scarpella, Ornati, Gariboldi 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 makers feature in my business dealings.

I regularly contribute articles on stringed instruments and 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 Guadagnini, our clients include students, amateurs and professionals of all levels."



**Sean Bishop**, Company Director

# International Masterclasses

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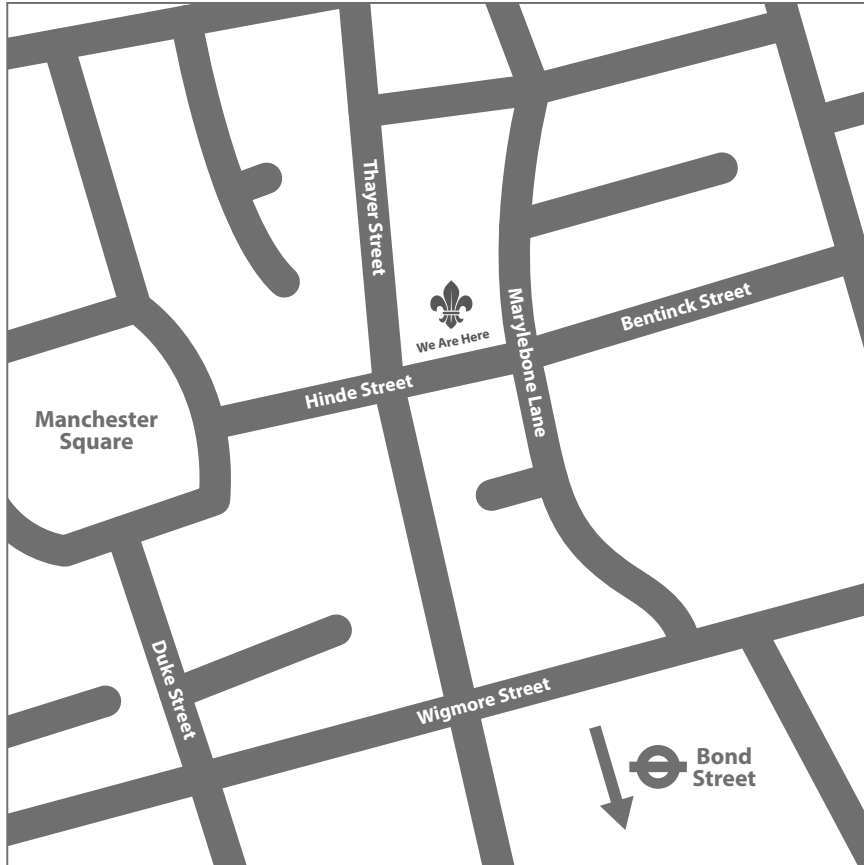
Each year Bishop instruments and bows have 3 masterclasses, one for each of violin, viola and cello, all for the young musicians of London's Junior colleges.

In the past year we have had violinists Daniel Hope, Tasmin Little. Violists, Roger Benedict, Maxim Rysanov and cellist Raphael Wallfisch.


Each masterclass 3 or 4 young musicians perform in our shop, holding 45 guests (and grand piano!) on a Sunday afternoon . This is a very intimate way of music making and learning, something we will continue to support.



Instruments & Bows always wanted. To purchase or on consignment.  
For latest instruments please visit our website - [www.bishopstrings.com](http://www.bishopstrings.com)



 **BISHOP** instruments & bows

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