

A new violin at the Museo del Violino: Amaryllis Fleming, Girolamo Amati 1600c.

On **Saturday, September 5th**, a new masterpiece has arrived at the **Museo del Violino, Cremona**.

In fact since last Saturday the **five-stringed cello Amaryllis Fleming**, made by **Girolamo Amati** approximately in **1600**. As you can guess from its name, it used to belong to Amaryllis Fleming, famous musician and English teacher, half-sister of James Bond author, Ian Fleming.

In the Fifties Fleming she studied Baroque Musique performance practice: she frequently played Bach's Sixth Cello Suite on this cello. On **Saturday, October 10th**, at 12, in the **Auditorium Giovanni Arvedi** it will be played by the Dutch musician **Jobine Siekman**.

This instrument has the typical features of the instruments made by the Cremonese luthier at the end of the century and it was made with excellent material. The original varnish is almost intact. After Fleming's death in 1999, the cello became property of the Amaryllis Fleming Foundation. It is on display at the Museo del Violino until the end of next Spring.



Violin beyond borders: Stradivari in Rijeka, Kresnik and Cremona

The exhibition “Violin beyond borders: Stradivari in Rijeka-Kresnik and Cremona”, was opened on December 6th 2019 at the Maritime and History museum of the Croatian Littoral Rijeka, European Capital of Culture 2020, that promoted the exhibition in collaboration with the Museo del Violino, Cremona.

Starting from Franjo Kresnik, who lived both in Rijeka (Fiume) and Cremona, this exhibition focuses on the creative work and the search of this citizen of the world, whose 150^o birth's anniversary is observed this year, and also remembers the years that preceded the opening of the Violin making school of Cremona and the Stradivarian celebrations in 1937. The exhibition explores the violin as an element that connected people despite the political conflict of the past in this specific area.

Not only instruments made by Franjo Kresnik are on display, but also violins Cremonese violinmakers, such as Carlo Schiavi and Peter Tatar, who had close contact with Kresnik, and four violins chosen among the winning instruments of the violinmaking competition that took place in 1937: two violins respectively by Iginò Sderci and Gaetano Sgarabotto, a viola by Ferdinando Garimberti and a cello by Vincenzo Cavani. The exhibition includes also documents and letters from those years, interesting documents from the Istituto Luce, that were already located in the Museo del Violino

Are also displayed two very important instruments from two of

the best Cremonese violinmakers, whom Kresnik was inspired by in his work as violinmaker and whom he talked about in his writings: the violin "Prince Doria" by Guarneri del Gesù, 1734 and the violin "Lam ex Scotland University" by Antonio Stradivari, made in the same year.

For the opening of the exhibition, there was a concert for violin and harp. Maestro Marco Bronzi played the violin Stradivari "Lam" 1734. Gianluca Galimberti, Mayor of Cremona, and President of the Fondazione Museo del Violino, Virginia Villa, General Director of the Museo del Violino, Paolo Bodini, President of the *friends* of Stradivari network, Fausto Cacciatori, Curator of the Collections of the Museo del Violino and the owner of the Stradivari violin, Mrs Eva Lam.

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A Guarneri violin at the Scala theatre: Premio Internazionale LOMBARDIA È RICERCA- giornata della ricerca in memoria di Umberto Veronesi- III edizione

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Once again one of our violins took part in the ceremony of Premio Internazionale LOMBARDIA È RICERCA (International Prize- Lombardy is research)- Research Day dedicated to the memory of Oncologist Umberto

Veronesi, promoted by the Fondazione Umberto Veronesi and Regione Lombardia, at the Teatro alla Scala, Milano, November 8 2019. The prize was given to Doctor Guido Kroemer. The Jury awarded the first prize to his discovery of the importance of the reduction of the amount, a key factor to increase longevity, keeping the organism healthy.

Edoardo Zosi played on the violin "Spagnoletti", by Guarneri del Gesù, 1734, on display at the Museo del Violino within the project friends of Stradivari, accompanied by Raphael Gualazzi, piano, in the amazing location of the Scala theater, Milano, during the Ceremony.

Violin Giuseppe Guarneri del Gesù "Spagnoletti", 1734

This violin is an unique violin because it is the only instrument made by one of the early great Cremonese violinmaker that was named after a great Cremonese violin player. This violin player was "Spagnoletti" AKA Paolo Diana. In the summer of 1831, the virtuoso from Genoa performed in numerous recitals, and the posters printed for these concerts show Spagnoletti had the prestigious role of leader of the orchestra. We will never know whether, on those evenings, Paganini was struck "by the readiness, precision and elegance, by the vigorous sound, by the brilliant staccato and by the graceful adagio expression, all distinctive features of the Cremonese virtuoso", as Spagnoletti was described by the Milanese Carlo Gervasoni in his Nuova teoria di Musica, published in Parma in 1812. What is certain, however, is that the two violinists were both performing on instruments made by Giuseppe Guarneri 'del Gesù': Paganini on his famous 1743 'Cannone' violin, and the Cremonese musician, now an adopted Englishman, on a 1734 violin that now bears his name.

Mexico: "Los Violines de Cremona: Stradivari, el Barroco y más allá "

"Los Violines de Cremona: Stradivari, el Barroco y más allá " exhibition in Puebla (Mexico) about the history of the Cremonese violinmaking tradition, organized by the Museo del Violino, was recently closed. The exhibition was opened at the beginning of last June in the extraordinary Museo Internacional del Barroco, a masterpiece by the famous architect Toyo Ito, opened in 2016 in Puebla, the capital of the state of the Mexican state of Puebla, a town founded by the Spanish in 1600, that now has 1.5 million inhabitants and wants to be the cultural capital of Mexico.

A delegation from Cremona – composed by Paolo Bodini, President of “friends of Stradivari”, the General Director of the Museo del Violino Virginia Villa, the Curator Fausto Cacciatori and Gregg Alf, member of the Scientific Board who also worked on the exhibition- was in Mexico for the official closing. They said “We are very satisfied with the result of this exhibition, with the collaboration we had with our Mexican colleagues and with the quality of the display in the really fascinating areas of this museum, that combines beauty and great efficiency”. More than 32.000 people have visited the exhibition, that was also extremely relevant on the Mexican national media.

15 instruments were on display, starting from the instruments made by Andrea Amati, Stradivari, Guraneri to those made by contemporary violinmakers. Great importance was given to the Baroque era, given the circumstances, and to the many artifacts from Stradivari workshop, images and videos of the Museo del Violino and Cremona.

The closing ceremony took place in the auditorium of the Museum and included a wonderful concert by the great violinist Juan Luis Prieto, who played the Stradivari “Marquis de Rivère”, 1718- whose owner is a private collector, the instrument came from the US through the “friends of Stradivari” network- accompanied by the pianist Santiago Piñeura. At the end of the performance the enthusiastic audience warmly thanked the Cremonese delegation.

On the way back home, the delegation pay a visit to the Italian Institute of Culture in Mexico City: thanks to the collaboration of the Director Marco Marica, in the evening there was a conference about Cremona and its violin making tradition, followed by a performance played on the Stradivari “Marquis de Rivère” and the Guarneri del Gesù “Principe Doria”, 1734. Also this time, the large audience showed great enthusiasm for the recital and great interest for the violin making of Cremona, confirming that worldwide there is

curiosity about our tradition.

This exhibition once again confirmed that our activities around the world, strongly promoted by the Museo del Violino at the aim to spread the knowledge of Cremona and its unique role in the history of the violinmaking, are extremely effective. We can consider this experience as another success, that equals the ones already achieved over these past few years in Fuessen, Moscow, Phoenix and Tokyo.

Reunion in Cremona. September 21st 2019-October 18th 2020

Eight extraordinary instruments by the greatest violinmakers of the past and one special bow attributed to Antonio Stradivari are on display at the Museo del Violino within the exhibition "Reunion in Cremona". These masterpieces arrived at the Museo del Violino from the National Music Museum of Vermillion, South Dakota that will be renovated this year. The Museum chose Cremona, birthplace of these incredible instruments, to house them until the renovation work are done.

The National Music Museum is the home of more than 15.000 pieces and this is why they decided to renovate the museum and add to it a Center of Preservation and Research.

A list of the instruments is available on this website. The Museum also published a catalogue of this one of a kind temporary exhibition.

New exhibition “Los violines de Cremona”

On June 3 2019 in Puebla (Mexico) at the Museo Internacional del Barroco, was opened the exhibition “Los Violines de Cremona: Stradivari, el barroco y más allá”, by the Museo del Violino. The opening ceremony started with a performance on the famous violin “Marquis de Riviere” made by Antonio Stradivari in 1718, that arrived in Puebla thank within the “friends of Stradivari” network project.

The exhibition includes photos and videos of the town and of the Museum, is composed as well as 14 instruments that tell the history of Cremona and the five centuries of the Cremonese violinmaking tradition, of Andrea and Nicolò Amati, of Stradivari, Guarneri del Gesù, Storioni, and of the modern violinmaking with the inlaid quartet of the Master Marcello Villa. Also, there are Baroque instruments on loan from the International School of Violinmaking of Cremona, a copy of the Baroque guitar by Stradivari and the artifacts of the Antonio Stradivari workshop. The exhibition ends on October 20th.

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two friends of Stradivari “on tour”-March 16

A delegation from the town of Füssen, member of the friends of Stradivari network, will be in Cremona soon. The presentation of the book, translated from German to Italian and English, *La liuteria di Füssen – Un’eredità per l’Europa (Füssen lute and violin making – A European Legacy)*, Friederich Hofmeister Musikverlag will take place in the Town Hall. Cremona and the town of Füssen, member of the “friends of Stradivari” network, last year became twin towns. This agreement has also the aim of working together on common projects since the two towns are so close because of their history and tradition. The presentation of the book will take place on Saturday 16 at 4 pm in the Sala dei Quadri at Palazzo Comunale. The Mayor of Cremona, Gianluca Galimberti, the Mayor of Füssen, Paul Jacob and Paolo Bodini, President of the friends of Stradivari network, will take part to the event and Carlo Alberto Carutti, also member of our network, will give a speech, explaining how they came up with the idea of an Italian translation of the original version. There will be also a speech of the authors of the book: Josef Focht (Musikinstrumentenmuseum der Universität Leipzig), Klaus Martius (Germanisches Museum, Nürnberg), e Thomas Riedmiller M.A., Museum der Stadt Füssen. At the end there is a musical performance.

Another friend of Stradivari, the violin Lam-ex Scotland 1734, will be “on tour”. Among the many activities organized within the permanent campaign against the violence against women launched by the State Police, a special performance will take place at the Teatro Sociale of Sondrio. Sara Zeneli will play the violin Antonio Stradivari Lam-ex Scotland (1734), testimonial of the event, arrived at the Museo del Violino within the “friends of Stradivari” project. The performance will be the opening to the concert of the State Police Band, directed by the Maestro Emilio Fasolino (Sondrio, Teatro Sociale, Saturday March 16 2019-8 pm).

A new arrival: the violin “Spagnoletti” 1734

This violin, made by Giuseppe Guarneri del Gesù in 1734 is the only one named after a famous Cremonese violinist, Paolo Diana Spagnoletti and since February, Saturday 23 has been on display in the room number 9 of the Museo del Violino. The owner is a member of the friends of Stradivari network, Elliot Golub, and for the arrival of this special instrument a lot of friends of Stradivari decided to take part to this special preview on February, Friday 22, organized by the network for the members. We are glad that many members attended the event. During the evening, there was not only the display of the instrument and a brief explanation of the preview given by the Curator of the Museum, Maestro Fausto Cacciatori, but also a performance on the Spagnoletti itself, played by Maestro Edoardo Zosi. Maestro Liù Pellicciari also played the Guarneri del Gesù “Prince Doria” 1734.

We thank all the ones who supported us by coming to our preview and we are sure that we will meet soon to share our love for music and violin making.

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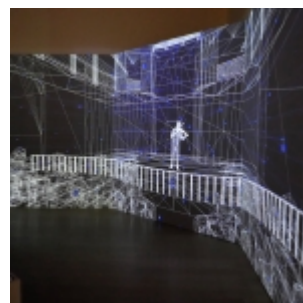
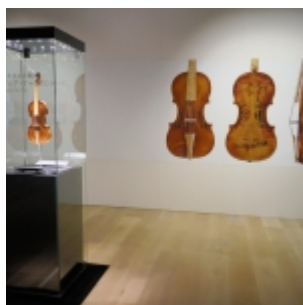
Tokyo Stradivarius festival

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From October 9 to October 15, the TOKYO STRADIVARIUS FESTIVAL 2018 took place in Tokyo. The festival was organized in collaboration with the Museo del Violino and 21 Antonio Stradivari instruments were on display.

In Tokyo were displayed some important artifacts from Antonio Stradivari workshop from the Museo del Violino and two instruments that are usually displayed in the Museo within the friends of Stradivari project: the decorated violin Andrea Amati "Carlo IX" 1566 and the guitar Antonio Stradivari "Sabionari" 1679, that was played in a concert on October 13.

The members of the delegation from Cremona were: Paolo Bodini (President friends of Stradivari), Virginia Villa (General Director of the Museo del Violino), Fausto Cacciatori (Curator of the collections of the Museum), Roberto Domenichini and the Master Violinmakers Francesco Toto, Toshiyuki Matsushita and Gregg Alf (members of the friends of Stradivari network). In the exhibition there were also representative instruments of the modern Violinmaking craft.







Il Museo del Violino and the Amici delle Serate Musicali

Monday 15, February, the **Museo del Violino** and the **Amici delle Serate Musicali**, organized an event in the foyer of the Conservatory of Milan to present the Museo del Violino.

Many people participated to the meeting. A movie about the Museo del Violino has been shown.

The speakers were: Virginia Villa, General Director, President *friends* of Stradivari and Fausto Cacciatori, Curator of the collections of the Museo del Violino. They presented also a very rare instrument of the collection: the violin Lam-ex Collin, 1669, Nicolò Amati. The instrument is now displayed at the Museo del Violino, as part of the ***friends of Stradivari*** project.

At the end of the conference, **Gidon Kremer and the Kremerata Baltica** played a concert. For the “encore”, Kremer played the violin Lam-ex Collin, that the Museo del Violino gave him for the occasion.

