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Founders of
The Stradivari Society®



CELEBRATING 35 YEARS
PROVIDING THE FINEST OF THE LUTHIER'S ART

35

A VIOLIN BY GIUSEPPE GUARNERI *DEL GESÙ*, CREMONA, c. 1739, "BEARE, STEINHARDT"



Dear Friends,

Sales of both modern and rare, antique stringed instruments are continuing to grow both in the U.S. and internationally as the world economy slowly improves. We have been seeing the highest increase in sales of great Italian instruments, with ten Stradivari and Guarneri *del Gesù* violins sold through our shop in the last year.

The worldwide market for other types of rare, antique instruments has also been thriving in recent years. The guqin is the most revered of ancient Chinese instruments. On December 7, 2010, a guqin that had been the personal instrument of Emperor Qian Long, who ruled from 1730 to 1796, was sold at auction in Beijing at a stunning world record price for any kind of musical instrument: \$25,000,000.

An event that was expected to have a major impact on our field and was watched closely by all who have a keen interest in rare, antique Italian violins was the recent auction of the “Lady Blunt” Stradivari of 1721 in London. The “Lady Blunt” is one of the most perfectly preserved violins by the master maker and is considered to be on the level of the “Messiah” Stradivari of 1716. The 1971 sale of the “Lady Blunt” by Sotheby for \$201,000 was not only a record price at the time, but it was also triple the price of any Stradivari previously sold and changed the market dramatically for great antique violins. On June 20, the “Lady Blunt” once again set a new record at auction when it sold for \$15,894,000. In an extraordinary act of generosity, the Nippon Music Foundation offered the “Lady Blunt,” considered the finest instrument in its collection, at auction and will donate the full proceeds to the foundation’s Northeastern Japan Earthquake and Tsunami Relief Fund. Another notable sale is the recent acquisition by the Russian government of six magnificent instruments from a major American collection for about \$42,000,000. These instruments are all, of course, at the pinnacle of achievement, but show just how strongly the market for antique stringed instruments has come back since the darkest days of the recession.

New Additions

Our extended family has had some important additions recently. Congratulations to Joe and Nancy Bein on the birth of their second child, Haley Allison Bein, on February 21—and to their son, Jack Bein, on gaining a sister!

Our best wishes also go to violinist and Stradivari Society recipient Yang Liu and his wife, pianist I-Hsuan Tsai, on the birth of their second son, Isaac. Their first son, Julian, is already following in his parents’ footsteps as he begins his violin studies.



Haley Bein

Photo: Nancy Bein



Julian Liu

Photo: Yang Liu

Whether you are a collector, student, or professional with an interest in the acquisition of stringed instruments, this is the perfect time to begin to build or add to your collection or upgrade your current instrument or bow. We have a superb and wide-ranging collection of great antique and modern violins, violas, cellos, and bows now in our inventory. You can view a great selection in this newsletter and at www.beinfushi.com. Our staff of experts—Gabriel Ben-Dashan, Alec Fushi, Joe Bein and John Gerson,—is ready to help you find the ideal bow or instrument at our shop in Chicago or anywhere worldwide.

With Affection and Appreciation,

An outstanding violin by

**GIUSEPPE GUARNERI
DEL GESÙ**

Cremona, c. 1739
“Beare, Steinhardt”

Named after former owner Arnold Steinhardt of the legendary Guarneri String Quartet and the violin dealer J. & A. Beare, this violin is a magnificent example of *del Gesù*'s late period work. Tonally the instrument has the deep, dark, resonant quality with brilliance at the top that is a signature of this maker's oeuvre. The top is made from two pieces of spruce and the one-piece back is of quarter-cut maple with medium curl descending from left to right. This *del Gesù* is fit for a top professional or collector. We welcome your serious inquiry.





An exceptional violin by

HIERONYMOUS AMATI II

Cremona, c. 1710

This striking late example of the great maker's work is made on a grand pattern. The violin was sold by the eminent English firm W.E. Hill & Sons at the beginning of the 20th century to a prominent Chicago family. The one-piece back is made from handsome slab-cut maple and the varnish is a lovely light brown. With the rich, vibrant soprano quality of sound that one would associate with the most beautiful Amatis, this exceptional violin is ideal for the most discriminating aficionado of Italian instruments.

A violin by

FRANCESCO RUGERI

Cremona, c. 1675

Francesco Rugeri was the first and most accomplished of a distinguished family of violin makers working in Cremona. This violin is a gorgeous example and has the best Cremonese varnish we have seen on Francesco's instruments. The back is fashioned from two pieces of quarter-cut maple with narrow curl descending slightly from the center. With a beautiful lyrical quality of sound, this comfortably-sized model is highly sought after by collectors and players.



Photos: Matthew Tolzmann

A violin by

JOSEPH GAGLIANO

Naples, c. 1785

The son of Nicolò Gagliano, Joseph studied with his father, whose influence is evident in his work. This exceptional violin is outstanding tonally with great power and a wonderfully complex quality. The two-piece back is made of quarter-cut maple having a faint and irregular curl. With a striking varnish that is golden brown in color, this instrument would be a superb addition to a collection or an ideal match for a soloist.



A violin by

JOHANNES CUYPERS

The Hague, 1794

One of the most highly respected Dutch makers, Cuypers made instruments that are tonally soloistic with a Stradivari-like projection. This excellent example has those qualities in abundance and is fit for a soloist. The violin is in exceptional condition with a light, golden-amber varnish. The back is made of two pieces of lovely quarter-cut maple with a deep medium curl descending slightly from the center.

A violin by

NESTOR AUDINOT

Paris, 1893

This violin is a remarkable example in concept and condition: one of Audinot's rare Guarneri *del Gesù* models. It is quite beautiful in appearance and sound. The back is made from one piece of quarter-cut maple with an attractive medium to wide curl ascending from left to right. This Audinot has a lovely orange-brown varnish and would be ideal for professionals, whether in an orchestra, chamber ensemble, or as a soloist.



Photos: Matthew Tolzmann



A violin by

VOLLER BROTHERS

London, 1894

The Voller Brothers were among the best copyists working in England towards the end of the 19th century. Their Guarneri del *Gesù*, Stradivari, and Gagliano models, among others, are remarkable. This 1725 Stradivari model possesses a strong and even quality of sound. The two-piece back is made from quarter-cut maple with a broad curl descending from the center joint. The original ribs and scroll are made from similar maple. The varnish is orange-brown in color. This violin is an exceptional value in a lower price range.

A viola by

J. B. VUILLAUME

Paris, 1855

Length: 15-5/8"

An outstanding viola that is under sixteen inches in length, this Vuillaume is based on a Stradivari model and is in pristine condition. Tonally, the viola has a more soprano-like quality of sound reminiscent of Stradivari while also strong and projective. The two-piece back is made of quarter-cut maple with narrow curl ascending from the center. The original antiqued varnish is an orange-brown color. This viola is ideal for all types of playing.



A viola by

WILLIAM WHEDBEE

Chicago, 2008

Length: 16-1/4"



An outstanding Chicago-based maker, William Whedbee has been proudly represented by our firm for many years. His work is regarded as among the best in the country. This viola is a superb example based on a Brothers Amati pattern and is comfortably sized. Whedbee is known for his stunning varnish and the powerful tonal qualities of his instruments, with a rich yet incisive character throughout and an evenness across all registers. A Whedbee viola is an unsurpassed value.

A cello by

NESTOR AUDINOT

Paris, 1878

Nestor was the best of the Audinot makers and one of the leading makers of the late 19th century. Our firm first became acquainted with this outstanding example when we sold it to a Chicago Symphony cellist thirty years ago. This marvelous instrument has great projection with abundant power, depth, and tonal beauty. The cello is made from a two-piece back of quarter-cut maple with deep medium curl ascending slightly from the center joint. The varnish is a handsome brownish-orange in color.



An exceptional violin bow by

CHARLES PECCATTE

Paris

Weight: 64 gms.

This bow is an extraordinary example of Charles Peccatte's work with good strength and weight and is fit for a collector or top professional player. The rounded shaft is of reddish-brown pernambuco. The original frog is quite beautiful and is made of ivory with silver mountings and abalone eyes with silver rings. The original ferrule is engraved "à Mademoiselle L'Anglois, 1er Prix du Conservatoire."



An exquisite violin bow by

DOMINIQUE PECCATTE

Mirecourt

Weight: 61.5 gms.

Formerly owned by a prominent player, this Peccatte bow is magnificent. The original frog is of ebony and silver with pearl eyes. The original button is silver divided by ebony with a pearl end eye. With a handsome round shaft of dark reddish-brown pernambuco, this bow has extraordinary weight and strength and would be ideal for a collector or leading professional.



A violin bow by

JOHN NORWOOD LEE

Chicago, 2006

Weight: 61.5 gms.

With extraordinary playing qualities producing a well balanced, lush, bright sound, this marvelous John Norwood Lee bow is a brilliant example of exquisite craftsmanship. The ornamentation is unique with a striking opalescent black pearl yin/yang symbol on both sides of the frog. The round shaft is of reddish-brown pernambuco. This bow is the first of this model made by Lee and would be a great match for a professional or top student.

A viola bow by

LEONARD TOURTE

Paris

Weight: 71.5 gms.

Bows by Leonard Tourte are extremely rare. This example was made in collaboration with Leonard's brother, the legendary bow maker François Tourte. With an excellent weight, this is one of the best early French viola bows that we have seen. The mountings are of silver and ebony, and the round shaft is made of dark brown pernambuco.



A superb cello bow by

JACOB EURY

Paris

Weight: 83 gms.



Eury was a contemporary of François Tourte, one of the very finest of the early French bow makers. This Eury cello bow is one of the best examples we have encountered. With an octagonal shaft of dark reddish-brown pernambuco, the mountings are of silver and ebony. Its substantial weight and marvelous playing qualities make this bow fit for a soloist or the most discriminating collector.

Photos: Matthew Tolzmann



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by Geoffrey Fushi and Robert Bein

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"THE YEAR'S BEST CLASSICAL RELEASE ... "

—John von Rhein, *Chicago Tribune*, December, 1999

"It's hard to imagine that the case for Stradivari and Guarneri could be more powerfully stated in words, pictures, or recorded sound—or to imagine that any future book about violins will not be judged by this epoch-defining standard."

—Robert Maxham, *Fanfare*

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Bein & Fushi inc.

Brian Allen

When seventeen-year-old violinist Brian Allen and his parents made the decision to look for a new violin, they turned to Brian's then teacher, Brenda Brenner, for advice on where to go. Her answer: Bein & Fushi. The result: Allen has been the delighted owner of a **violin by Carl Becker, Chicago, 1956**, since 2008 and recently acquired an excellent F. N. Voirin bow. The Allen family worked with salesman Gabriel Ben-Dashan. "The violin's tone is brilliant on all the strings, but not too bright. It projects well and the tone it produces is very clear," said Brian. And of the Voirin bow: "When I picked up the Voirin, I fell in love with my very first détaché strokes. This one fits perfectly in my hand and effortlessly does anything I command of it."



"Gabriel Ben-Dashan is amazing. He's very courteous, extremely helpful, and exudes trustworthiness. He's very knowledgeable. Gabriel also has let me try out a couple of Strads and Guarneris. I would definitely do business with them again. I trust their shop completely with regard to violins and bows and I recommend Bein & Fushi to all of my music friends."

– Brian Allen

concert master for both 2010 and 2011. In 2010 he represented the U.S. in the inaugural Lions Club Global Youth Music Competition in Sydney, Australia, winning first prize. Check out some of this very talented artist's performances on his YouTube channel: BrianAllen1129.

Allen attends the pre-collegiate String Academy of Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music and is in his sixth year as a member and regularly featured soloist of the Violin Virtuosi, the Academy's premier performing ensemble led by Mimi Zweig. This summer the Virtuosi will tour Sweden and Denmark and perform in Kansas City, Chicago, and Miami. As senior division winner of the 2011 New World Symphony Young Artist Concerto Competition, Allen performed with the ensemble in May. In addition to being this year's winner of the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra's Side-by-Side Concerto Competition, Allen was selected as Side-by-Side

Zoë Merrill

"My **Carl Becker violin [Chicago, 1943]** is very versatile, with a rich, resonant lower end, and a dulcet and gentle, but still powerful higher end. What I like most about it is the way that I feel when I'm playing it, as if I could play anything because the violin itself sounds so fantastic," said Merrill. "This is my first time buying from Bein and Fushi," Merrill commented. "My overall experience has been wonderful. I would most definitely go back to work with Alec Fushi and buy from Bein and Fushi again." Merrill is completing her senior year in high school at the Mayfield Senior School in Pasadena and will be attending the University of California at Los Angeles in the fall where she plans to major in music and violin performance. Her current teacher is Cynthia Moussas.



Photo: Bronson Photography

"I loved working with Alec Fushi! He was incredibly accommodating and helpful. He even came after hours to help me find 'the one.' After I had tried only a few violins, he knew what I was looking for, and that is when he came back with my Becker. He also let me play a Stradivarius, too, which was absolutely amazing!" – Zoë Merrill

Merrill placed seventh nationally and fifth regionally in the 2010 Grand Concours National. She also took second place in the Music Teachers of California String Festival Concerto Competition in 2009 and 2010. The violinist has been a member of the Claremont Young Musicians Orchestra since her sophomore year and was appointed principal second violin for her senior year. She participated in the Idyllwild Arts Summer Program in 2005 and 2007-2010. Not only is the multi-talented

Merrill an accomplished violinist, but she is also a seasoned studio session singer. Her credits include *Jonas Brothers Movie*, *Mulan II*, *The Emperor's New Groove II*, *Lilo and Stitch II*, *Polar Express*, *Tinkerbell*, *American Idol Christmas Special*, *Malcolm in the Middle*, and *Mommy and Me*. She was a member of the Los Angeles Children's Choir from 2002 to 2007.

William Hagen

William Hagen just completed his first year at Juilliard where he studies with Itzhak Perlman. His performance of Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto in his debut with the Saint Louis Symphony was praised by the *Saint Louis Post-Dispatch* as having, "... impressive technique on notable display ... and presence, and an unusual depth for one his age." He recently acquired a superb **violin by Andrea Guarneri, Cremona, c. 1675**: "The Guarneri has a beautiful, deep, complex sound. I fell in love with it immediately and didn't have a hard time adjusting to it." A native of Utah, Hagen began playing the violin at age four and initially studied with Natalie Reed and Deborah Moench and continued his studies with Robert Lipsett at the Colburn School for seven years. While there he also participated in master classes with Pinchas Zukerman and Joseph Silverstein.



Photo: Busath Photography of Salt Lake City

The violinist has recently appeared with the Buffalo Philharmonic on NPR's *From the Top*, the Albany (New York) Symphony, the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra in a return engagement, and made his subscription series debut with the Utah Symphony. Hagen performed at the Kennedy Center and the Met this spring with Perlman and alumni of the Perlman Music Program. He has been a participant in the Aspen Music Festival where he received the New Horizons Fellowship, the ENCORE School for Strings studying with Robert Lipsett, and the National Arts Centre's Summer Music Institute with Pinchas Zukerman. Summer 2011 will be his second at the Perlman Music Program Summer Music School. In 2008, he was awarded a grant from

"This was my first time buying from Bein & Fushi. I couldn't be happier with this violin. Joe Bein is an awesome guy. He's knowledgeable and easy to work with, not pushy. Everyone at Bein & Fushi knows their stuff."

– William Hagen

the Ahmanson Foundation for promising young artists, and in 2010 was named the Rosenblatt Artist by the Utah Symphony, an annual award presented to a young artist of emerging national prominence.

Susie Koh

At just sixteen, violinist Susie Koh has already distinguished herself as both a soloist and chamber ensemble member. She is thrilled to be playing a **violin by Giovanni Grancino, Milan**, and a **bow by François Lupot**, acquired in October, 2010, "The Grancino has such an amazing sound, and I can get so many different colors when I play it. When I tried the bow, I knew immediately it was a good match. I really love them both!" Koh has appeared with the Shanghai Sinfonietta and KBS Symphony Orchestra, the Korean Broadcast System's flagship orchestra,



Photo: Seung Hyu Baek

"I loved working with Gabriel [Ben-Dashan], especially when I tried bows. Gabriel told me the history of the maker and bow. I learned so much and it was really fun. He let me try violins and bows at home and would always ask how I was doing. Gabriel's been so helpful whenever we've come to the shop. We've bought several instruments from him in the past and would definitely come back." – Susie Koh

and the Jerusalem Symphony. She is a member of the Aurelia String Quartet which has taken top prizes in the 2009 Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition, Junior Division; 2009 Saint Paul String Quartet Competition; and 2009 Rembrandt Chamber Music Competition.

As a soloist she has won first place in the 2010 Union League Civic and Arts Foundation Competition and 2008 Music Teachers National Association Competition, East-Central Division, among others. Koh just completed a recital tour of Korea in April and May where she also performed with the Joy of Strings Chamber Orchestra. In 2008, she was appointed by World Vision Korea to be its Ambassador of Hope, using music to raise awareness about the plight of orphans and to encourage and inspire support. Koh will be attending the Perlman Summer Music program for the third time this summer. She has studied with Almita Vamos, Marko Dreher, and Ludmilla Feldman and taken master classes with Pinchas Zuckerman, David Taylor, the Pacifica String Quartet, Joel Smirnoff, Ruggiero Ricci, Robert Kaplan, James Buswell, Miriam Fried, and Maxim Vengerov.

Danny Lai

Currently a student of Roland Vamos at Northwestern University, violist Danny Lai is very pleased with his **W.E. Hill and Sons viola bow** acquired from Bein & Fushi: "I love the feeling of confidence it inspires in my playing more than anything else. Of course, it has the ability to draw long smooth legatos along with the necessary suppleness to create a strong spiccato. But the added confidence it gives me also adds to my musicality, because I don't have to worry about having bow problems. I've had it about a month, but already I feel my style of playing changing to suit the bow." Lai is in his junior year at Northwestern University. He serves as assistant principal viola in the Civic Orchestra of Chicago and has a fellowship to attend the Aspen Music Festival and School this summer. He was a semifinalist in the 2010 Stulberg International String Competition for his performance of York Bowen's Viola Concerto. Lai performed works by Bach, Hindemith, and Schubert for his junior recital in May.



Photo: Yufeng Gu

The violist has played in major orchestras including the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and the 2010 Pacific Music Festival Orchestra in Sapporo, Japan, and at the 2010 New York String Orchestra Seminar and has performed under the direction of Michael Tilson Thomas, James DePriest, Esa-Pekka Salonen, and Jaap van Zweden, among others. He has participated in master classes with Lynn Harrell, Rachel Barton Pine, Daniel Foster, Yizhak Schotten, Peter Slowik, and Roger Myers, as well as the Hugo Wolf, Audubon, and Jupiter string quartets. Lai has been the recipient of the Nichols and Heim Scholarship for outstanding music students at Northwestern in 2009, 2010, and 2011 and Chautauqua's Wilbur D. Forney Memorial Scholarship in 2009. "This is my first time buying from Bein & Fushi," said Lai. "The experience has been great. My teacher, Dr. Roland Vamos,

"John Gerson was great. From the moment I called the shop, he was friendly and willing to help me out with my demands. I told him my price range and he worked with it well. And being a violinist himself, he was able to lend me his ear when it came to experimenting with the different bows, which is always helpful when confronted with the monumental task of sifting through all the equipment that is out there!"

– Danny Lai

has always spoken about the high reputation of the shop, so I was a bit hesitant to approach them because I was afraid of condescension. But on the contrary, everybody in the shop is really nice. I would definitely work with B & F again."

Maya Bennardo

An excellent **Pierre Guillaume bow** is now in the gifted hands of Oberlin senior Maya Bennardo: "I have had the bow for a little over a month, and practicing is so much more fun because of it! It was definitely love at first sound. The bow gave my playing the new and different colors that I had been searching for." Bennardo acquired her **Tetsuo Matsuda, Chicago, 2005, violin** from the firm four years ago and worked with Gabriel Ben-Dashan: "Gabriel was a pleasure to work with. He studied with my violin teacher Gregory Fulkerson for a year when he was at Indiana." How was her Bein & Fushi experience this time? "I would definitely buy from them again! I have loved working with both Gabriel and John. I plan on staying in touch with John, so I would most certainly work with him again!"

For her senior recital in May, Bennardo performed music by Respighi, Stravinsky, Paganini, and Donatoni. She has also participated in master classes led by Rachel Barton-Pine, Jennifer Koh, and Ilya Kaler. An avid chamber musician, Bennardo has been a member of a string quartet for her entire tenure at Oberlin. She took part in an intensive winter-term project where she played Brahms' String Sextet in G Major. Bennardo has also performed in chamber music master classes for the Takács String Quartet, members of the Cavani String Quartet, Jasper String Quartet, and Audubon Quartet and has attended Interlochen, Meadowmount, ARIA, and Chautauqua, where she served as concertmaster with the Music School Festival Orchestra under the baton of Timothy Muffitt. This fall, Bennardo will begin the Masters of Music program at New York University



Photo: Dechopol Kowintaveewat

where she will continue her study with Gregory Fulkerson. She would like to become a member of a contemporary music ensemble and also focus on outreach work to inspire young people to become interested in classical music, whether as a musician or in the audience.

“Working with John Gerson was really wonderful. I met him for the first time when he came to Oberlin to show instruments and bows to students in the conservatory, and he was extremely personable and helpful right from the start. He is a really great addition to the Bein and Fushi family!” – Maya Bennardo

Emily Ondracek and Erik Peterson Members of the Voxare Quartet

Winner of Chamber Music America's 2010 ASCAP'S Award for Adventurous Programming, the Voxare Quartet is definitely an ensemble on the rise: kudos from *The New York Times*, “The personable and passionate Voxare players ... offered a spirited, high-energy performance, vividly conveying the work's beautiful colors. The performance was excellent, with distinctive contributions from each player.” Quartet members and husband and wife Erik Peterson, viola, and Emily Ondracek, first violin, have both acquired instruments from Bein & Fushi. Ondracek purchased an excellent **violin by François Pique, Paris, 1815**: “The Pique is a wonderful instrument. It has a big robust sound and always has more to give. I can create a variety of different colors with the violin.” Peterson bought a **Lamy bow** and **Franz Kinberg viola, Chicago, 1952**: “I'm very fortunate and privileged to play on the Kinberg. It's very fast to respond and has a large and warm, yet focussed and complex sound which is just what you need in a modern viola. And it's very comfortable to play.”



Photo: Erik Peterson

The Voxare Quartet: Adrian Daurov, Erik Peterson, Galina Zhdanova, and Emily Ondracek

“I had done master classes at Bein & Fushi when I studied with Drew Lecher and was familiar with the shop, but it wasn't until I was looking for a fine violin that I visited to try some out. I felt that because Erik and Drew spoke so highly of Bein & Fushi that I could trust the shop and Joe Bein. It was really nice to work with Joe. He's not pushy, is very friendly and knowledgeable, and is our age so I felt really comfortable working with him. The next time I'm looking I'll go to Bein & Fushi and Joe first. I have recommended them to my students and friends.”

– Emily Ondracek

Both Ondracek and Peterson grew up in the Chicago area and went to Juilliard as undergraduates. Ondracek and Peterson formed the Voxare Quartet in 2008. The ensemble performs a wide range of works from the standard repertoire to music by Terry Riley, Steve Reich, Philip Glass, and Nico Muhly, to name just a few, as well as their own transcriptions of rock songs and Bach fugues. Voxare is Bargemusic's quartet in residence. The ensemble has been featured live on “Soundcheck WNYC” and had its concerts broadcast on WQXR-FM. Voxare also has a residency series “DIG IT! New Music” which features works by living composers at Columbia

University's Teachers College, and was at Dartmouth for a performing residence in May where the group worked with faculty and students on electronic composition. In August, the Quartet will record the music of Daron Hagen for Naxos featuring a new quartet written for the ensemble to be released in early 2012 as part of the label's sixtieth-anniversary celebration. Voxare will be touring the UK in September as part of the Cultural Olympiad preceding the 2012 Olympic Summer Games in London. Composer Ned Rorem has invited Voxare to work with him on a recording of his string quartets. Check out www.voxarequartet.com for more information.

"I bought a Lamy bow before and worked with Joe on that. The viola search was much longer, far more extensive and much more complex, with the sizes and character of sound varying so much on different instruments. Joe is fun to work with, and I've learned a lot from him. He takes the time to explain each instrument and I've been enriched by that. Joe will definitely be the first person I contact whenever I look for a new viola or bow." – Erik Peterson

Ondracek made her solo debut at sixteen with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Since that time, she has performed at the Aspen Music Festival and School, Sarasota Music Festival, Italy's Festival de Due Mondì, and at the Blossom Festival

with The Cleveland Orchestra, where she was awarded the Joseph Gingold prize for outstanding performance. She went on to get her Master's degree from Juilliard and was a student of Masao Kawasaki. She has been attending Teachers College at Columbia University where she has received a Masters degree and is working on her Doctorate in Education. Peterson studied viola with Heidi Castleman and Misha Amory at Juilliard. He received his Master's degree from the Cleveland Institute of Music, where he is currently a Doctoral Candidate and former teaching assistant to Stanley Konopka. He has participated in music festivals at Blossom, Aspen, Grant Park, Spoleto in Italy, and the Encore School for Strings, where he was awarded the Kay H. Logan Award for chamber music performance.

Tina Wagner

Now the owner of a **viola by Tetsuo Matsuda, Chicago, 2010**, since March, Tina Wagner is very glad she made the purchase: "I'm really liking it. I'm still adjusting to it. I wanted something with better projection and the Matsuda did that. It has a clear, sweet sound and powerful projection. The size is a good fit." Wagner received her Bachelor's of Music Performance from Rutgers University's Mason Gross School for the Arts and was a student of Richard Clark and Elizabeth Chang. The violist is busy preparing for auditions and is a successful freelancer in New Jersey where she can be seen performing in ensembles on the Monmouth University Performing Arts series, as a substitute with the Orchestra of St. Peter by the Sea, and in orchestras for musicals and holiday concerts.



Wagner received her Master's degree from Eastman where she studied with George Taylor. While at Eastman the violist was a member of the Ossia new music ensemble when they worked with and performed Michael Tenzer's *Resolution*. That performance was included on a 2009 CD of Tenzer's works, *Let Others Name You*. She was a member of a quintet selected to play at the Honors Concert where the ensemble performed Schubert's *Trout Quintet*. Wagner has an interest in and had the opportunity to play in gamelon ensembles as part of a summer program at Eastman and at Rutgers. She has participated in a summer chamber music festival at the School for Strings in New York where she was in a quartet that received coaching from the esteemed violist Paul Neubauer. Wagner began playing the viola at

"Alec Fushi was really nice to work with. I like that he was very interested in me being happy. He wasn't pushy at all. He worked within my budget. Alec knows a lot about instruments. I would absolutely work with him again." – Tina Wagner

age ten as part of her public school's orchestra program where she eventually performed with the All-City, All-Regional, and All-State orchestras. She is very interested in developing and participating in outreach programs in the public schools to inspire, teach, and expose children to the joys of classical music and playing an instrument.



How Many Strads?

OUR HERITAGE FROM THE MASTER

By Ernest Doring

New Enlarged Edition Published by Bein & Fushi

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This new, easy to read, expanded edition contains all of the original text plus much important added information at a fraction of the usual price. Originally published more than fifty years ago, *How Many Strads?* remains an invaluable reference on Stradivari and his instruments with detailed information and photographs. Available only at rare book auction prices of up to \$2500 until now. The complete original text is reproduced in an easier-to-view larger size with enhanced photographs.

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— Robert Maxham, *Fanfare*

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Caroline Goulding Receives the 2011 Avery Fisher Career Grant



Photo: Andy Chirciak

“It was such an honor for me to receive the 2011 Avery Fisher Career Grant. I especially feel grateful to Geoff, Suzanne and Mrs. Galvin for supporting me at the award ceremony! I feel so privileged to be a past recipient of the Stradivari Society, not only because I had the opportunity to play one of the most beautiful violins ever made, but also because I was able to work with the wonderful people at Bein and Fushi, many of whom I now treasure both as violin experts and friends.” – Caroline Goulding

On March 14, violinist and former Stradivari Society recipient Caroline Goulding was one of only three to receive the coveted Avery Fisher Career Grant, given annually to up to five artists or chamber ensembles. Each recipient receives an award stipend of \$25,000 to be used for specific needs in furthering their career. In the audience at the award ceremony and attending the reception for the recipients at The Stanley H. Kaplan Penthouse in the Rose Building of Lincoln Center were Society Founder Mary Galvin, Dawn Meiners, and Society Chairman Geoffrey Fushi and Director Suzanne Fushi. All three awardees played at the ceremony, with Goulding giving a brilliant rendition of the *Devil’s Trill* Sonata by Tartini/Pavanello. The performances were recorded for broadcast by WQXR-FM with legendary host Robert Sherman and aired in March. WNET-TV’s “Sunday Arts” program also featured the recipients. You can enjoy the performances online at www.averyfisherartistprogram.org. This season Goulding is being presented by Young Concert Artists in recital debuts in New York, Washington, D.C., and Boston.

“Caroline is a truly extraordinary artist with a major career ahead of her. It’s been wonderful to see her playing evolve over the years. She’s been a joy to work with, and I look forward to watching her career take flight.”

– Geoffrey Fushi

She is also appearing with the Sarasota Orchestra, Charlotte Symphony, El Paso Pro Musica Festival, and has return engagements with both the Toronto Symphony and The Cleveland Orchestra. For more about Goulding, go to www.carolinegoulding.com. 

The Woman’s Athletic Club Series Dazzles with Recitals by Vadim Gluzman, Yi-Jia Susanne Hou, Elli Choi, Tim Fain, and Randall Goosby

Woman’s Athletic Club Series concertgoers were given a welcome reprieve from winter, if only for a few hours, thanks to spectacular recitals by Stradivari Society recipients. January brought Canadian violinist Yi-Jia Susanne Hou and pianist Elaine Hou to the Club’s elegant Drawing Room for a recital featuring spectacular performances by Massenet, Bartók, Debussy and Sarasate. Hou is the recipient of the “Mary Portman” Guarneri *del Gesù*, c. 1735 violin generously loaned to her through the Society by her patrons Karen and Clement Arrison. In February, Vadim Gluzman, playing the “Auer” Stradivari of 1690, brilliantly balanced interpretive depth and virtuosic fireworks in his performances of Beethoven’s *Kreutzer* Sonata and Ravel’s *Kaddish* and *Tzigane*. Angela Yoffe accompanied. For *Kaddish*, Gluzman played the “Vieuxtemps” Guarneri *del Gesù* of 1741 and provided an opportunity for the audience to compare two exceptional antique violins.



Photo: Roman Malamant



Photo: Lisa-Marie Mazzucco



Photo: This Pix, New York



Photo: Briana Blasko



Photo: Mike Itashiki

Making her Stradivari Society debut in March, nine-year-old violin sensation Elli Choi brought down the house in March with Dvořák’s *Sonatina* for Violin and Piano in G major, op. 100, Chopin/Milstein’s *Nocturne* in C-sharp minor, and the first movement of Paganini’s *Violin Concerto No. 1*. Choi is the Society’s newest and youngest recipient and is the recipient of a three-quarter sized violin by Joseph Rocca of Turin made in 1852. Pianist Aglika Angelova accompanied. (For more about Choi, see p. 19.) Violinist Tim Fain delighted the audience in April with performances of music by Fauré, Massenet, and Saint-Saëns. Fain

Clockwise from top left: Vadim Gluzman, Yi-Jia Hou, Elli Choi, Randall Goosby, and Tim Fain



plays the “Moller” Gobetti violin, thanks to patrons Karen and Clement Arrison. The collaborative pianist was Marta Aznavoorian. The very gifted fourteen-year-old violinist Randall Goosby made his Woman’s Athletic Club series debut in May to thunderous applause and standing ovations with music by Mozart, Ysaÿe, Bruch, and Gershwin. Aglika Angelova was collaborative pianist. 🎻

Philippe Quint Stars in the Film *Downtown Express*

Stradivari Society recipient of the “Ruby” Stradivari of 1708, Philippe Quint has recently made his acting debut in *Downtown Express*. In what is unprecedented for top soloists who have appeared in films in the past, but always as themselves, Quint has the leading role. He plays Sasha, a Russian violinist who emigrates to New York to study at Juilliard whose life takes a different direction after he meets and falls in love with a singer-songwriter. While it may appear that art is imitating life for Quint, who defected from Russia to study at Juilliard, he is decidedly not playing himself. To prepare for his role as Sasha, Quint studied acting for several years with renowned coach Sondra Lee. “Sondra became my ‘theater mom’ and guided me with great care and nurturing,” commented Quint. “For me this project was pushing me out of the box. I really enjoyed the movie-making process and found it fascinating.” Singer-songwriter Nellie McKay is Quint’s co-star in the film which was directed by the Emmy Award-winning documentary filmmaker David Grubin, making his feature



Photo: © Susan Meiselas

film debut. *Downtown Express* was produced by Michael Hausman, whose producing credits include *Brokeback Mountain*, *Gangs of New York*, and *Amadeus*.

The world premiere screening took place at New York’s Symphony Space on June 7, and later in the month Geoffrey and Suzanne Fushi hosted a private screening in Chicago. The release date has not yet been announced, but the press had definitely taken note: features about Quint’s film debut have appeared in *The Strad*, *Strings*, and *Symphony* magazines, the *New York Daily News*, as well as extensive coverage on NPR, Violinist.com, allthingsstrings.com, and WQXR’s Café Concert. Do Quint’s future plans include more acting work? “Being in *Downtown Express* was an ideal way to try acting,” said the violinist. “Going forward, my performing schedule would make it difficult to do more filming, but perhaps if something comes my way. I’m not ruling anything out.” To find out more about the film,

“Quint is an amazing player in terms of his technique, but it was especially refreshing to see someone on screen who was actually performing, and quite beautifully at that. I also thought that the filmmakers did a fine job of creating little glimpses into the hustle so common to nearly all musicians struggling to get heard.” – Anastasia Tsioulca, NPR

check out www.facebook.com/downtownexpressfilm and www.downtownexpressfilm.com. For more about Philippe Quint, visit www.philippequint.com. 🎻

“Both Suzanne and I were very impressed by the film and especially by Philippe’s acting and his spectacular playing as well as his versatility and adaptability to performing pop along with classical music.” – Geoffrey Fushi

World Premiere by James MacMillan Performed by Vadim Repin

Scottish composer James MacMillan’s long-awaited violin concerto received its world premiere in May 2010 by renowned virtuoso and former Society recipient Vadim Repin at the Barbican with the London Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Valery Gergiev. The work is dedicated to Repin and was co-commissioned by the London Symphony, the Zaterdagmatinee in Amsterdam, The Philadelphia Orchestra, and the Ensemble Orchestral de Paris. The performance was also broadcast on BBC Radio 3 in May. February 24th



Photo: © Mat Hennek / DG



marked the U.S. premiere with Repin and The Philadelphia Orchestra led by Charles Dutoit followed by their performance of the concerto at Carnegie Hall in New York in March.

“Vadim Repin gave an astonishing account of the solo part, which is like an unceasing torrent crashing over rocks.”

– Richard Morrison, *The Times (London)*

“The solo part’s torrential flurries and sweetly spun melodies are custom fitted to a virtuoso like Mr. Repin.”

– Steve Smith, *The New York Times*

In February, Repin performed the Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and received standing ovations for his interpretation of the perennial audience favorite. The sought-after violinist has upcoming engagements with major ensembles around the world including the Israel Philharmonic conducted by Kurt Masur, Hong Kong Philharmonic under Rossen

Milanov, Russian National Orchestra directed by Mikhail Pletnev, China Philharmonic with conductor Long Yu, and Kammerorchester des Bayerischen Rundfunks led by Radoslaw Szulc. Repin’s latest CD for Deutsche Grammophon, Violin Sonatas by Janáček, Grieg, and Franck with pianist Nikolai Lugansky was released in October. 🎻

Tim Fain Combines Success in Film and Music

Photo: Briana Blasko



With his appearance in the acclaimed film *Black Swan* and upcoming world premiere of his commission from iconic composer Philip Glass, violinist Tim Fain’s career has kicked into high gear. Fain appeared in several scenes with Natalie Portman in *Black Swan*. He performed excerpts from Tchaikovsky’s *Swan Lake* on the “Moller” Gobetti violin, Venice, 1717, loaned to him thanks to The Stradivari Society and his patrons, Karen and Clement Arrison.

The versatile artist is serving as violin soloist in and producer of a special multi-media event, “Portals,” to showcase the U.S. premiere of his commission from Philip Glass, Partita for Solo Violin, which will open the season for New York’s Symphony Space on September 24th. Fain is collaborating with Benjamin Millepied—internationally acclaimed ballet choreographer, who counts *Black Swan* among his many credits, and principal dancer at New York City Ballet—on the performance.

“The brilliant young American violinist brought technical finesse, lyrical ardor and cagey control to his alluring performance [Prokofiev’s Violin Concerto No. 1]. ... Mr. Fain gave a rippling, zestful account of the scherzo and dispatched the streams of intricate scales and ornate passagework of the final Moderato with ease. A hit with the audience ...”

– *The New York Times*

In addition to music and dance, “Portals” will also integrate video and the spoken word including poetry by Leonard Cohen. Fain has been working with leading venues across the country on tour dates in September and October with stops at Omaha’s Kaneko and The Broad Stage in Santa Monica—the violinist’s hometown, plus other venues to be announced. As a duo, Fain and Glass performed nine concerts on their European tour in May, with Glass playing piano. Fain and Glass will also be performing six concerts during their South American tour in September.

“When I’m playing the Gobetti, I feel that I’m communing with another soul. It’s been so rewarding to play on this amazing violin for an extended period of time. I felt it was a great match right away, but a much deeper relationship has unfolded over time. And I feel such a close connection with my patrons, Karen and Clement Arrison. The Arrisons and Geoff and Suzanne Fushi have been by my side as my career has grown. I’m so grateful to them.” – **Tim Fain**

Last year Fain played for his patrons, Karen and Clement Arrison, at the launching of the DeeDee Arrison Holistic and Integrative Wellness Lectures at Cornell University’s College of Veterinary Medicine. The series was hosted and sponsored by the Arrisons. On the recording front, the violinist’s next CD, *River of Light*, will be released on Naxos in the fall and will feature short works by living American composers. To find out more: www.timfain.com. 🎻



Performances in Wurzburg, London, Philadelphia, and Chicago Captive Audiences and Garner Kudos for Elena Urioste

Photo: Matt Stuart



In her first year as a Stradivari Society recipient of a violin by Alessandro Gagliano, Naples, c. 1706 thanks to her generous patron, Dr. Charles King, Elena Urioste has received rave reviews and standing ovations for her debut performances in the U.S. and Europe. In January, Urioste joined her teacher and mentor, Joseph Silverstein, at the El Paso Chamber Music Festival playing Prokofiev's Sonata for Two Violins, and teamed with members of the Harlem Quartet, cellist Zuill Bailey, and violist Stephanie Meyers for performances of Schoenberg's *Verklärte Nacht* and Mendelssohn's String Octet. Also in January,

"I am more honored than ever to be working with Dr. Charles King and Geoff and Suzanne Fushi. Dr. King recently attended my performances with the Annapolis Symphony Orchestra, and seeing the pride on his face and delight at having his instrument played onstage was enough to melt me. Geoff and Suzanne are the warmest people and I so value the relationship we have begun to cultivate. This whole situation is a dream come true, in every sense."

– Elena Urioste

music critic Lawrence A. Johnson of chicagoclassical-review.com hailed Urioste's April 2010 Chicago Symphony debut playing Vaughan Williams' *The Lark Ascending* as being among the top ten performances of 2010. Last December the violinist played the Sibelius Violin Concerto in her debut performances in Germany with the Wurzburg Philharmonic led by Anthony Bramall. Urioste received multiple curtain calls which brought her back on

stage for a very enthusiastically received encore. The violinist joined the London Philharmonic for her debut last June as part of its BrightSparks concerts at Southbank Centre's Royal Festival Hall. These performances enable thousands of children to experience the thrill of live music, often for the first time. And she played with the Chicago

"Watching an emerging soloist burn up the stage in the most standard of repertoire is more than just a momentary thrill -- it's something that reminds you how renewable classical music should always be. And what took Elena Urioste's performance of the Mendelssohn Violin Concerto a step beyond that Sunday with the Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia was the kind of collaboration you can't count on with busier musicians on a subscription treadmill."

– David Patrick Stearns, *Philadelphia Inquirer*, Feb 15, 2011

Sinfonietta in May for conductor Paul Freeman's farewell performances as music director in a concert showcasing women in classical music. Urioste is looking forward to a residency at the Marlboro Music Festival this summer. For more about this gifted artist, go to www.elenaurioste.com. 

Anna Lee Shines in New York Philharmonic Debut

Recipient of a violin by Nicolò Amati, Cremona, c. 1635-40, Anna Lee made her debut with the New York Philharmonic on April 2 as part of the Young People's Concert series conducted by Daniel Bolco. Her spectacular performance of Shostakovich's Violin Concerto No. 1 received a standing ovation from the audience. Recent career highlights for the multifaceted high school sophomore include her conducting debut with the Peoria Symphony Orchestra where she performed and conducted Mozart's Violin Concerto No. 3 last



Photo: Charles Abbott



“I remember when I first got my Nicolò Amati violin. It's been a fantastic friendship since then and I'm so blessed to have had it for over three years! Working with Suzanne and Geoff Fushi is always so much fun. Mostly though, I really appreciate all the support and care that I've received from them and from my patron.”

– Anna Lee

ko Takezawa, Pamela Frank, and Joseph Silverstein. Since 2004, the violinist has been a full-scholarship student at the Aspen Music Festival and School. Lee received the Horizon Fellowship to attend Aspen in 2007 and 2010. 

November and her Wigmore Hall debut in London last September. In April, 2010, Lee took third place and the Audience Prize at the Menuhin International Competition, Junior Division, held in Oslo.

Lee currently studies with Masao Kawasaki and Cho-Liang Lin at the Pre-College Division of The Juilliard School. She has participated in master classes with many of the world's top soloists including Cho-Liang Lin, Elmar Oliveira, Sylvia Rosenberg, Robert McDuffie, Kyo-

NEW RECIPIENT

ELLI CHOI • Three-Quarter-Sized Violin by Giuseppe Rocca, Turin, 1852

At age nine, the Society's youngest recipient has already built quite an impressive resume. Choi began her violin studies at three with Susanna Han. She has been attending the Pre-College Division of The Juilliard School since the age of seven and is a student of Hyo Kang and I Hao Lee. By the time she was four, Choi had been invited to perform at the Suzuki Method World Convention held in Turin. At five, the violinist made her Korea Symphony Orchestra debut playing the Mendelssohn Violin Concerto. Choi has also

“I'm really proud and happy to have been chosen for The Stradivari Society. Geoff and Suzanne Fushi have been so nice. The Rocca is the best violin I've had to play. It sounds like a full-sized violin. I think it's more powerful and goes a long distance.” – Elli Choi

performed the Mendelssohn Violin Concerto with the College Symphony Orchestra Prague at the International Peace Music Festival in Dubai when she was seven. A year later, Choi teamed with the College Symphony Orchestra Prague again, playing Lalo's *Symphonie espagnole* and Sarasate's *Carmen Fantasy* in Dvořák Hall at the Rudolfinum in Prague. The young violinist recently completed a U.A.E. tour with the Prague Youth Symphony led by Riad Kudsi playing Paganini's Violin Concerto No. 1 in four cities, including a re-engagement with the International Peace Music Festival in Dubai. Choi won the grand prize at the 2010 Philadelphia International Music Festival and will be performing with the Ocean City (New Jersey) Pops Orchestra in June. 



Photo: This Pix, New York



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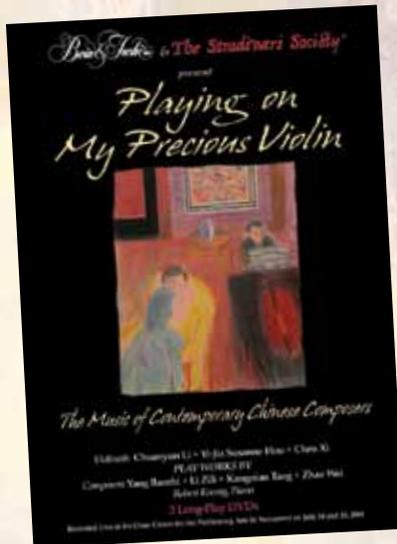
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documentary about Chuanyun Li with excerpts from Li's Vancouver recording session for ABC Int'l Records plus interviews with the artists, composer Kangnian Tang, and the legendary Professor Yaoji Lin of Beijing's Central Conservatory. *Please note: some interviews are in Chinese with English subtitles.*

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—Robert Maxham, *Fanfare Magazine*

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