



## **Azzo Rovascalli**

Azzo Rovascalli (1880–1941) was a distinguished violin maker and violinist whose craftsmanship and artistry left a lasting impression on the world of lutherie. Born in Crema, Italy, Rovascalli pursued his passion for music and violin-making, studying in Milan under the tutelage of the renowned Antoniazzi family. The Antoniazzi family were a prominent dynasty in Italian violin-making, with Riccardo Antoniazzi, the eldest son of Gaetano Antoniazzi, playing a pivotal role in shaping the modern Milan School of violin-making. Gaetano himself was deeply influenced by the legendary Italian luthier Giovanni Battista Ceruti, whose techniques and style permeated the Antoniazzi family's work.

Rovascalli's career was marked by his association with esteemed workshops and figures in the violin-making community. He worked at the Monzino shop and later collaborated with Leandro Bisiach, another luminary in the field. These experiences exposed Rovascalli to a rich tapestry of influences, which he skillfully integrated into his own creations. His violins are characterized by their elegant design, including beautifully carved scrolls, and their exceptional tonal qualities. The lighter yellowish-gold varnish seen in some of his later works is believed to reflect experiments inspired by his time in Nice, France, where Riccardo Antoniazzi had settled and possibly collaborated with Bianchi.

The present violin is a great copy of a Rovascalli violin in terms of sound; this violin easily rivals any modern Italian violin on the stage and has really great carrying power.

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