

Gemunder brothers Viola No.1



George and August Gemünder, who were among the most influential violin makers in 19th-century America, established their renowned workshop in Astoria, Queens, New York, during the 1870s. Having trained under the esteemed J.B. Vuillaume in Paris, George Gemünder brought the finesse of European craftsmanship to American soil, crafting violins and violas that rivaled the finest Italian instruments.

Their Astoria, Queens workshop, nestled on a quiet lane bordered by forest, stood in serene contrast to the bustle of Manhattan, where the brothers worked for two decades. This tranquil setting became the birthplace of exceptional stringed instruments, each infused with the Gemünder's artistry and precision.

One such treasure is a 15¼-inch viola, remarkable for its rich, resonant tone despite its modest size. Labeled internally as Viola No.1, it is unmistakably a one-of-a-kind gem, an embodiment of the brothers Gemünder vision and mastery.



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