

Italian Cello — attributed to Farotti- Price: \$70,000



This fine Italian cello has been attributed by **Datilli** to **Farotti**, a maker associated with the late-19th-century Italian tradition that balances classical Cremonese influence with a more robust, individual working method.

The instrument is built on a **generous and confident model**, featuring a handsome one-piece maple back with broad arching and a warm, transparent varnish of attractive depth and color. The surface shows honest wear and patina consistent with age and professional use, lending the cello an appealing sense of authenticity rather than over-restoration.

The spruce front is particularly strong, with well-defined grain and **elegantly shaped f-holes** that are upright and assured in character. The arching is purposeful and well judged, reflecting a maker concerned primarily with tonal efficiency and long-term structural integrity.

The scroll and pegbox are carved with clarity and strength rather than overt refinement, displaying disciplined workmanship and well-balanced proportions. The softened chamfers and substantial pegbox walls are consistent with Italian instruments of this period that favor musical reliability over decorative excess.

Importantly, the cello has recently been fitted with a **new bass bar**, a significant tonal enhancement that has transformed the instrument's response and projection. As a result, it now offers a **powerful, open, and projecting tone**, with a dark, resonant lower register and a focused, singing upper range. The sound carries with ease and depth, making the cello particularly well suited for orchestral, chamber, and solo repertoire.

While the name Farotti is less widely commercialized today than some contemporaries, instruments attributed to this circle are increasingly appreciated for their **musical integrity, tonal strength, and exceptional value**. This cello stands as a compelling example — a serious Italian instrument with presence, character, and a voice that comfortably competes with more familiar names of the period.

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