

TESTORE SCHOOL CELLO

Milan, Italy, 18th Century

Accompanied by a certificate from Wurlitzer in New York



This exceptionally handsome and musically distinguished cello from the school of Testore represents the finest traditions of the historic Milanese school. Estimating this instrument to be from the school of Testore and likely around 250 years old, the instrument displays elegant craftsmanship throughout, with refined arching, deeply textured varnish, and a beautifully proportioned outline of notable sophistication and character.

The varnish possesses remarkable depth and transparency, ranging from warm amber tones to rich, dark wood grain, qualities often associated with the finest Italian master instruments

of the period. The rather old and primitive scroll is unique and carved with much character, serving as a striking visual signature, while the edgework and purfling exhibit the disciplined yet artistic workmanship for which the Testore school is admired.

In both visual presence and tonal personality, this cello compares favorably with many celebrated examples from the golden era of Italian making. It possesses an unusually noble and individual appearance, combining strength with refinement in a manner rarely encountered.



The instrument has benefited from the natural, irreplaceable seasoning of very old and aged wood over time, beauty of sound is a given, resulting in a notably powerful and responsive voice. The cello now speaks with exceptional freedom and projection, offering a rare combination of depth, brilliance, warmth, and carrying power. Particularly impressive is its ability to project clearly in a concert hall while retaining richness and complexity under the ear. The sound, as one would expect, is filled with rich quality, making it a superb chamber music instrument.

The tone is broad and mature, with strong lower registers, a singing tenor quality, and an upper register of remarkable clarity and brilliance. The cello is a full-size cello but easy to navigate, and its responsiveness and tonal flexibility make it equally suited to solo, chamber, and orchestral performance.

A rare and compelling example of the work of the Testore school, accompanied by a respected Wurlitzer certificate, estimating this instrument to be around 250 years old and possessing both striking visual beauty and outstanding concert qualities.

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