Questions and answers about violin building

Bows

- My bow is losing hair!
- My bow can no longer be tightened!
- The hairs no longer properly grip the strings while playing!

Violins

- My Violin rattles!
- My varnish has become dull and gummy!
- Inexplicable scratches are occurring on the bottom of the violin cover!
- How must the bridge be positioned?
- The bridge is no longer straight after tightening the strings!
- Where must the sound post be positioned?
- Do I own a genuine Stradivarius?
- My pegs no longer hold properly. They slip and cant be turned!
- Problems in Winter
- String Studies
- Which string is recommended for my instrument?
- How did Stradivari build his intruments?

Answers

Do I own a genuine Stradivarius?

If your old violin has a Stradivarius label on it, you should assume that it is not the real thing. Stradivarius labels can be found by the thousands as no violin maker is so frequently copied. Usually such a label means nothing more than that the violin is modeled on a Stradivarius violin. Ask a violin maker for his opinion. The same applies to violins with labels from Amati, Guarneri and many others. Our answer to this common question is to say that there are about 500 Stradivarius violins left, 2000 of them are in Lübeck.

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