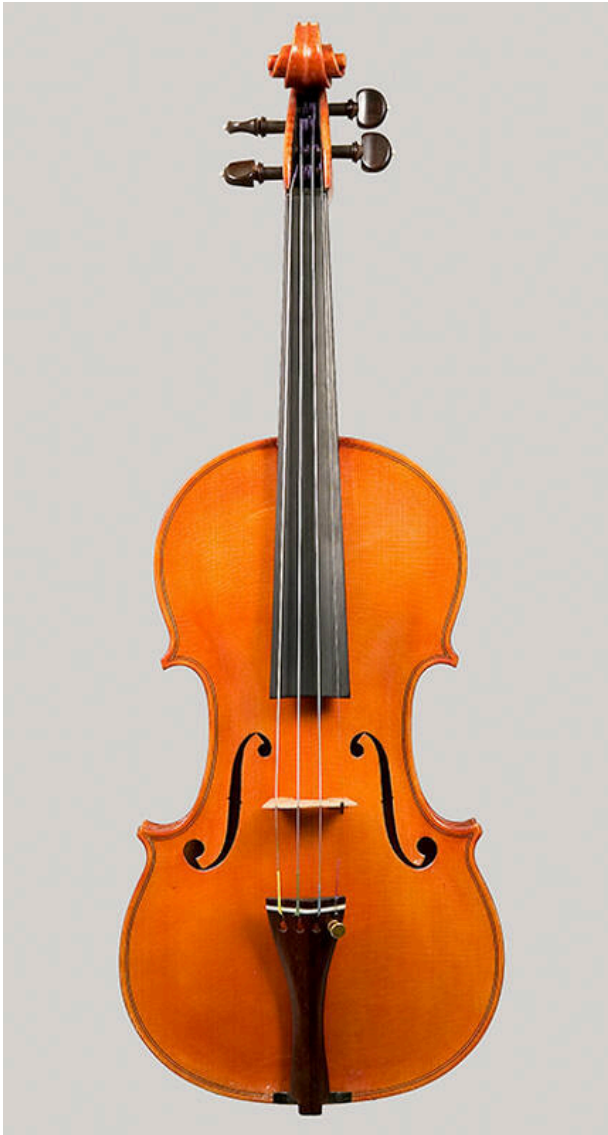


# Basic Detail Report

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## Violin

### Date

1962

### Primary Maker

Giuseppe Pellacani

### Description

Certificate of authenticity signed by the maker on February 15, 1964 on his own letterhead is in the file. This certificate includes detailed information about the varnish and mentions a patented bridge, no longer with the instrument. Pellacani was evidently fascinated by the achievements of John Glenn at the time NMM 10,800 was made. Glenn was the first American astronaut to orbit the earth, which he did three times on February 20, 1962 aboard the Friendship 7, as the third American to travel in space. Glenn ran into technical difficulties on the February 1962 mission, with Glenn assuming manual control of the unit when it spun out of control after its first orbit and with a frightening heat shield failure immediately prior to reentry. Glenn's risky return was successful and garnered him the title of national hero as well as a parade in New York City on March 1st. On February 26, the date that Pellacani inscribed on his violin label, it was "John Glenn

Day" in Washington, D. C., when Glenn rode before hundreds of thousands of fans on the streets of the city and addressed Congress. Pellacani was likely aware of the celebrations through extensive media coverage of the event. Top: two-piece, quarter-cut spruce: wide grain; wavy grain on upper bass bout Back: two-piece, quarter-cut maple: narrow curl descending from center joint; maple dowel through back into top block through center joint; maple dowel through back into bottom block through center joint Ribs: quarter-cut maple: narrow curl angled to right on upper bass and center and lower treble bouts, angled to left on center and lower bass bouts and upper treble bout; rib corners rounded Head and neck: maple: narrow curl; inside of pegbox stained black; peg holes rebushed Arching: high and full Purfling: wide Varnish: medium orange Fingerboard: ebony; possibly later Nut: ebony; concave upper side Tailpiece: rosewood with ivory saddle; beveled face; probably later, installed by Meisel Tailgut: black plastic; later Pegs: rosewood with undercut heads and ivory pins; later, installed by Meisel Saddle: ebony Endpin:

rosewood; probably later, installed by Meisel F-holes: large eyes; lower wings channeled; undercut; inside edges stained dark red-brown Linings: willow; thick Corner blocks: spruce Top block: spruce Bottom block: spruce Bassbar: tall Other: maple cleats along inside of back joint; spruce cleats along inside of top joint

### **Dimensions**

Total violin length: 586 mm Back length: 356 mm Upper bout width: 169 mm Center bout width: 109 mm Lower bout width: 206 mm Upper rib height: 28-30 mm Center rib height: 29-31 mm Lower rib height: 30-32 mm Stop length: 196 mm Vibrating string length: 327 mm Neck length (bottom of nut to ribs): 132 mm