Basic Detail Report



Violin

Date

1640-1750 ca.

Description

This violin was attributed to Pesaro or Brescia for many years, but has soundholes and arching atypical of that area. Many violins were made North of the Alps with lion's heads atop the pegboxes, but the design here is also unique. Top: one-piece, quarter-cut spruce: medium grain Back: two-piece, slab-cut maple: very broad curl ascending from center joint; wood pin through button into neck heel; later ebony heel cap Ribs: quarter-cut maple: faint narrow curl; two wood pins through lower rib into bottom block below endpin Head and neck: maple: narrow curl; pegbox in the form of lion rampant with red coloring in mouth; neck set into new heel and thinned Arching: high Purfling: two dark strips, no light center strip Decoration: geometric inlay comprised of two dark strips of wood along center joint of back Varnish: medium orange-brown on body, dark red-brown on head Fingerboard: ebony; later Nut: ebony; later Tailpiece: horn; silver saddle; embossed silver flower set into face Tailgut: copper wire Pegs: four brown-varnished boxwood with undercut, concave heads and silver pins Saddle: ebony; later; original descended into lower rib Endpin: ebony; later F-holes: strongly curved wings; steeply undercut; inside edges stained black Linings: maple

except where replaced with spruce in upper and lower bouts Corner blocks: spruce; small Top block: light hardwood; later Bottom block: lig

Dimensions

Total violin length: 586 mm Back length: 355 mm Upper bout width: 162 mm Center bout width: 102 mm Lower bout width: 198 mm Upper rib height: 28-31 mm Center rib height: 29-32 mm Lower rib height: 29-32 mm Stop length: 199 mm Vibrating string length: 333 mm Neck length (bottom of nut to ribs): 133 mm