

## The Messiah Stradivarius Violin

For hundreds of years, for the world's greatest violinists, holding the legendary Messiah Stradivarius violin was a lifetime honour, because of its soft, sweet sound that not only charms the listener, but prompts the musician to play emotionally with gentle tones.

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The Messiah Stradivarius violin was made over 300 years ago by the Italian master, Antonio Stradivari, considered history's greatest violin maker. The sound quality of the "one in a million" Messiah Stradivarius comes from the material that comprises it: a thousand-year-old spruce tree that grew in the Fiemme valley in northern Italy. The tree was cut in the extreme cold of winter in the middle of Europe's Little Ice Age, making it dense, fragrant, and durable against the trials of time. Thanks to the tempering of nature and the craftmanship of a genius at the pinnacle of his expertise, the legendary Messiah Stradivarius was born.

youtube.com/EnglishTreasure

Over more than 70 years as a craftsman, Stradivari produced 1,100 musical instruments, including violins, guitars, and cellos. Of these, 550 violins still exist today, but the legendary Messiah Stradivarius has been "retired" and is now displayed in the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford, England.

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How old is the Messiah Stradivarius violin?

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What kind of wood was it made from?

Where is it now?