

A viola by Filippo Protani, 2006

Catalogue Number: RKT-1000

\$12,000

Labeled: “Filippo Protani, V, Perugia, 2006”

Repairs: There are no repairs to this instrument, but it was revarnished by the maker in 2009. There is nothing on the instrument that would show us this and the softly antiqued result is very pleasing.

Condition: This instrument is new from the maker and in new condition. It is offered with the maker’s unconditional guarantee and his certificate.

Comments: This impressive, large viola is built on an Andrea Guarneri pattern of 1676. The workmanship has a robust character and an interesting pattern of tool marks. The scroll is slightly heavy looking and suits the solid nature of this large instrument. The sound is very full and satisfying and continues to develop with playing.



Filippo Protani was born in Perugia, Italy in 1969. As a child he spent much time in the workshop of his grandfather, the sculptor Artemio Giovagnoni who instilled in him a passion for music. This led him to study classical piano and now performs as a jazz pianist.

He started his training as a lutherer at the Scuola per Maestri Liutai e Archettai in Gubbio, Umbria. At the end of that three year course he decided to leave his job as a solicitor and moved to England where he improved his skills at the Newark School of Violin Making.

Since July 2007 he has worked as a maker at Roger Hansell’s shop in North Yorkshire where he has reached a truly professional level, learning to copy fine instruments.

This present large viola was made in his spare time in his workshop in Middleham, North Yorkshire.

<http://www.protaniviolins.com/>

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Description: This instrument has a two-piece maple back showing fine figure descending slightly from the centre joint. The sides and neck are of matching material. The front is of two pieces of spruce showing medium grain becoming slightly broader towards the edges. The fittings are of ebony. The varnish is of a red/brown colour shaded and antiqued over a yellow ground and is in new condition. There are deliberate tool marks from the maker, but no apparent cracks or repairs.

Back Measurements:

Length: 419mm. Upper bout: 194mm. Middle bout: 136mm. Lower bout: 245mm.

March 4, 2010