

DIRECTORY / LIBRARY OF FAMOUS HISTORICAL CELLISTS
Surname letter starting with B

DIRECTORIO / BIBLIOTECA DE VIOLONCELLISTAS HISTORICOS FAMOSOS
Apellidos empezando con B

**** Lorenzo Balbi**

??? - ????

Italy

Important Activity:

Cellist and composer active at beginning of 18th century

**** Amadeo Baldovino**

1916 - 1998

Egypt (of Italian family)

Important Activity:

While still a teenager, he played with such major orchestras as the Amsterdam Concertgebouw, the Czech Philharmonic, and the Berlin Philharmonic.

Trio Italiano d'Archi . Trio de Trieste. Professor Rome Conservatory and the Accademia di Santa Cecilia in Rome

Anecdotes:

* the teacher of Raphael Wallfisch

**** George Barati**

1913 - 1996

Hungary (later USA)

Important Activity:

Member Budapest Concert Orchestra. Pro Ideale Quartet. Principal cello Budapest Symphony and the Budapest Municipal Opera Orchestra. Member San Francisco Symphony. California String Quartet. Founding conductor of the Barati Chamber Orchestra of San Francisco. Music director of the Honolulu Symphony and Opera. Executive director of the Villa Montalvo Center for the Arts and conductor of the Villa Montalvo Chamber Orchestra in Saratoga, California. Music director of the Santa Cruz County Symphony.

A distinguished cellist, conductor, and composer. Wrote a Fantasie for Four Cellos.

**** Sir John Barbirolli (born Giovanni Battista Barbirolli)**

1899 - 1970

Italy (later Britain, USA)

Important Activity:

First came to London to study as a cellist (Trinity College of Music and Royal Academy of Music). He then played cello in the London Symphony Orchestra – indeed present at the premiere of Elgar's Cello Concerto. Later he developed an amazing conducting career – Covent Garden Opera, Hallé Orchestra, Manchester (for nearly 30 years), New York Philharmonic, Houston symphony Orchestra etc.

**** Alexander Barjansky**

1883 – 1961

Russia

Important Activity:

Soloist.

Premieres:

Delius – Cello Concerto (perf. 1923),

Bloch – Suite for Cello and Piano (trans. from viola)

Dedications:

Bloch – Schelomo

Special friendships: Ernest Bloch

**** Camillo Barni**

1762 – 1840

Italy (later France)

Important Activity:

Principal cello Milan Opera Orchestra. Member Paris Italian Opera Orchestra.

Music/Publications:

Some own original compositions, including a cello concerto. A number of his works were published in Paris between 1804 and 1809.

Anecdotes:

* Pupil of grandfather David Ronchetti and Guiseppe Gadgi.

* Esteemed as a skilful player.

**** (Alfred) Mathieu Barraine**

1870 - ????

France

Co-principal cello Concerts Lamoureux Orchestra (1901)

**** Jean-Baptiste Barrière**

1707 (or 1705?) – 1747

France

Important Activity:

Member Academie Royale de Musique (Opera). Patronage by King Louis XV

Music/Publications:

Many own original works

Anecdotes:

* one of the co-founders of the 'French' school of cello playing.

**** Alexandre Batta**

1816 - 1900? 1902?

Belgium (later France)

Important Activity:

cellist & composer

Music/Publications:

Own original works

Anecdotes:

* Son of Pierre Batta.

* Studied with Platel at Brussels Conservatoire.

**** Pierre Batta**

1795 - 1876

Belgium

Important Activity:

Professor Brussels Conservatoire

Anecdotes :

* the father of Alexandre Batta

**** Felix Battanchon**

1814 - 1893

France

Important Activity:

Member Paris Grand Opera Orchestra.

Anecdotes:

* Student Paris Conservatoire.

* He unsuccessfully endeavoured to bring into favour a small kind of 'cello which he called Baryton.

**** Charles Nicolas Baudiot**

1773 - 1849

France

Important Activity:

Member of the Court Chapel (Paris), Principal cello Opera Orchestra (Paris). Professor Paris conservatoire.

Music/Publications:

Own original pieces, and a Cello method

Anecdotes:

* a pupil of Janson.

**** Carl/Christian (Friedrich) Bauersachs**

1767 - 1845

Germany

Important Activity:

Played cello and basset horn, with a good reputation. Many concerts as a touring artist, but did not succeed in gaining a good permanent post.

Anecdotes:

* Finally, left the cello - to become a miner!

**** Jörg Baumann**

1940 - 1995

Germany

Important Activity:

Principal cello Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra (1976-95). Philharmonic Duo (Jörg Baumann and Klaus Stoll).

Anecdotes:

* he was a firm favourite of Herbert von Karajan.

* a late recording of the 6 suites of Bach - very natural (almost rustic), not following the usually more romantic interpretations from the 1980's.

**** Johann Baptist Baumgarten**

1723 - 1782

Germany

Important Activity:

cellist & composer

Music/Publications:

Own original works, including various cello concertos. Also a cello method.

**** Paul Bazelaire**

1886 - 1958

France

Important Activity:

Professor Paris Conservatoire. Founder of Ensemble of 50 cellists.

Premieres:

Maurice Emmanuel – Cello Sonata (1921).

Music:

Many own original pieces and arrangements, plus several cello methods.

Friendships:

Pau Casals

Anecdotes:

* a pupil of Jules Delsart.

* he was the teacher of Pierre Fournier.

* he was largely considered to be the finest exponent of the Saint-Saens Cello sonatas.

**** Hugo Becker**

1864-1941

Germany

Important Activity:

Principal cello Frankfurt Opera Orchestra, Professor Frankfurt Hochschule, Heermann String Quartet, Trio with Busoni and Ysaÿe, Trio with Schnabel and Flesch, Professor Royal Academy of Stockholm, Professor Hochschule fur Musik in Berlin.

Premieres:

Dohnanyi – Konzertstucke (also dedicatee).

Reger – Sonata in F Major, Op. 78 (Becker gave 2nd performance of the work, with the composer at piano).

Dedications:

Reger – Suite No.2 in D minor, for solo cello.

Piatti – Cello Sonata No.1 in C Major, Op.28,

Robert Kahn – Cello Sonata, Op.56 (1911)

S. De Lange - Cello Sonata No.2

Music/Publications:

Own original works and studies, plus important treatise

Special friendships:

Brahms, Clara Schumann, Joachim, Reger, R. Strauss

Anecdotes:

* Students included Grummer, Schuster, Piatigirsky and Harrison

* In the introduction to his Bach Suites edition Becker wrote: “The editor has not included the notorious errors contained in the so-called ‘original’ written by Bach’s wife”

**** Jean Bedetti**

1883 – 1973

France, later U.S.A.

Important Activity:

Principal cello Boston Symphony Orchestra (from 1919 – c.1945),

Anecdotes:

- * he was described by his students as an emotional player.
- * unfortunately, he had a couple of bad encounters with the conductor Koussevitsky ...

**** George Bekefi**

1922 - 1963

Hungary (later based U.S.A.)

Important Activity:

Assistant principal cello Chicago Symphony Orchestra (a member 1957-1963). Trio 'Tre Corda Trip'.

Dedications:

His friend Janos Starker wrote for him "An Organized method of String Playing" (to help him on problems of 'nerves')

Anecdotes:

- * he gave many performances across all of North and South America.
- * an early death (41 years old) cut off an artistic career

**** Petrus Rudolf Bekker**

1828 - 1873

Holland

Important Activity:

Professor in Utrecht. Granted the title of solo Violoncellist by the King of Holland.

Great promise cut off by an early death ...

**** Domenica della Bella**

???? - ????

Italy

Important Activity:

cellist & composer

Music/Publications:

Own original compositions (publ. In Venice 12 sonatas for two violins and cello)

**** Richard Bellmann**

1844 - c.1900

Important Activity:

Principal cello Grand Ducal Kapelle Schwerin, and shortly with title 'chamber virtuoso'. Heckmann String Quartet.

Anecdotes:

- * Pupil of Kummer and Fr. Grutzmacherin Dresden.

****?. Benazet**

??? - ????

France

Important Activity:

cellist

Anecdotes:

* Referred to as excellent French cellist; performed as soloist in 1823 at the 'Societe Philharmonique' (Paris).

**** Friedrich Ernst Beneke**

??? - ????

Germany

Important Activity:

Employed Hannover Elector's Court and Chamber Music Society.

Anecdotes:

* Brother of Philipp Friedrich, and in the same employment!

* Concert tour with Louis Spohr c. 1804.

**** Philipp Friedrich Beneke**

??? - ????

Germany

Important Activity:

Employed Hannover Elector's Court and Chamber Music Society.

Anecdotes:

* Brother of Friedrich Ernst, and in same employment!

**** Umberto (Giuseppe Giovanni) Benedetti**

1886 - 1964

Italy

Important Activity:

Principal cello Monte Carlo Orchestra.

* he was awarded first cello prize at Paris conservatoire in 1906.

**** Willem van den Berg**

1886 - 1970 (? dates unsure)

Holland (later USA)

Important Activity:

Principal cello Philadelphia Orchestra. Principal cello San Francisco Symphony Orchestra. Principal cello Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra. American Chamber Players (with Ingolf Dahl, Milton Thomas, and his wife Dorothy Wade). Guarnerius Quartet.

Music/Publications:

wrote cello training pieces - "67 etudes on the Beethoven Quartets" !

Anecdotes:

* he was for 9 years principal cello in the Philadelphia Orchestra.

**** Otakar Berger**

1873 - 1897

Czech

Important Activity:

Founder Czech String Quartet.

Anecdotes:

* Studied with Hegenbarth and Wihan. A student of Dvorak in composition

* a pupil and great friend of Hans Wihan. Wihan helped him form the Czech String Quartet. He did not play with them at first, but instilled in them his own ideas and managed their appearances. In 1892 the name Czech String Quartet was adopted. Wihan filled the void when Otakar Berger fell ill in 1893 and joined the ensemble permanently after Berger's death in 1897.

**** Christian Bernhard**

1673 - 1751

Germany

Important Activity:

Cellist and court musician, Berlin. Service of Chapel Margrave Christian, Cöthen.

**** Martin Berteau Founder of the French cello school**

1709 - 1771

France

Important Activity:

Important teacher, and also composer

Music/Publications: own original music, including 4 cello concertos, and sonatas

Anecdotes:

* he hailed from Valenciennes

* Said to have abandoned the viola da gamba after having heard the cellist Francischiello, for the good fortune of future generations of cellists !

* he was the teacher of Cupis, Tilliere, Ernest A. Janson and Jean-Pierre Duport

**** Agustín Bethancourt Mendoza**

1826 - 1885

Spain (Canary Islands), later Venezuela

Important Activity:

Physician, amateur orchestral conductor and cellist who helped develop the cultural life in Venezuela. Haydn, Schubert, Mozart and Pleyel were introduced to the native population!

**** Dominique Bideau**

???? - ????

France (?)

Important Activity:

cellist & pedagogue

Music/Publications:

published an esteemed method for the violoncello, and some other instrumental works, since the year 1796.

****?. Biedel**

???? - ???? (at least 1740)

Important Activity:

Instructor of the Emperor Peter II (St. Petersburg). Member Russian Court Band.

Anecdotes:

* he was also a fencing expert - his instruction to the Emperor included both cello and fencing!

**** August Bieler**

1863 - ????

Germany

Important Activity:

Principal cello Sonderhausen Orchestra. Professor Sonderhausen Conservatoire.

Anecdotes:

* a pupil upil of Sebastian Lee.

* Bieler was described as a distinguished cellist, experienced as a quartet player.

**** Auguste Van Biene - the 'Magician of the cello'**

1850 - 1913

Holland (later Britain)

Important Activity:

Member Rotterdam Opera Orchestra. Royal Opera Orchestra, London (later Principal cello). Principal cello Gaiety Theatre Orchestra, London. Later conductor and theatrical management.

Music:

produced own 'music hall' compositions, which he successfully staged.

Anecdotes:

* a pupil of Servais (at Brussels conservatoire).

* Found playing (busking) in streets of London by Michael Costa - conductor of Royal Opera Orchestra, and soon after was playing in the orchestra!

* The most successful show he produced - 'The Broken melody' - passed over 6000 performances.

* he was known as the "Magician of the Cello" for the fullest emotion he put into his concerts

* a great sense of humour. Also, he was quite possibly the first cellist ever to make a cellist recording ...

* High credit should be given to Dr. Brenda Scott, of the Music Dept. of Duke University (U.S.A.) for her most impressive investigative work on this artist today

**** Julius Bietz**

1812 - 1877

Germany

Important Activity:

Member Royal Stadt-Theatre Berlin (aged 16 !). Assistant-director (to Mendelssohn) at the Dusseldorf Theatre, later opera conductor. Kapellmeister at Leipzig Theatre. Later life dedicated to conducting and artistic direction.

Music/Publications:

Own original works, including 2 cello concertos.

Anecdotes:

* Pupil of Ganz and Romberg.

**** Henri Billet**

??? - ????

France

Important Activity:

'Premier violoncelle de la musique privée de l'Empereur de Russie'

* made a tour of Canada in 1842

**** Heinrich August Birnbach**

1782 - 1840

Germany (later Austria)

Important Activity:

Member Vienna Opera Orchestra. Member Count Lubomirski's Private Orchestra in Galicia. Principal cello Orchestra of Pesth. Patronage Hofkapelle at Berlin.

Anecdotes:

* Pupil of Anton Kraft.

* Also a guitarist, and seriously experimented with the "Chitarra coll' arco" invented by a certain Stauffer - Birnbach wrote a concerto for it, and played it publicly.

**** Edward (Russell) Bisha**

1927 - 1991

U.S.A., later Canada

Important Activity:

Member American Chamber Orchestra. Member of the 'Harp Trio' (New York). Principal cello Halifax Symphony Orchestra. Member Halifax Trio (later renamed Brandon University Trio). Professor Brandon University, and at the University of Saskatchewan. Cellist Amati String Quartet, and Canadian Arts Trio. Member National Arts Centre Orchestra, Canadian Opera Company, and the CJRT Orchestra.

Anecdotes:

* he studied with Felix Salmond, Bernard Greenhouse and Janos Starker.

* he won the Piatigorsky award in 1949

**** Johann Christoph Bischoff**

1748 - ????

Germany

Important Activity:

Principal cello Hofkapelle, Dessau.

Anecdotes:

* Described as a very fair/fine cellist.

**** Peter Bitter**

1760 - ????

Germany

Important Activity:

Cellist and conductor. Direction of Opera at the theatre of Mannheim.

**** Charles Henri Blainville**

1711 - 1769

France

Important Activity:

Maitre de Musique in Paris.

Music/Publications:

Own original works, including 2 symphonies (but no cello repertoire).

Anecdotes:

* Gave musical tuition to the Marquise de Villeroy.

**** Boris Blinder**

1898 - 1987

Russia/Ukraine (later USA)

Important Activity:

Principal cello San Francisco Symphony Orchestra. San Francisco String Quartet.

Principal cello post in San Francisco lasted more than 20 years.

**** Julien Paul Blitz**

1885 - 1951

Belgium (later USA)

Important Activity:

cellist in the Kursaal Orchestra in Ostend. In 1913, Blitz founded and became the first music director of the Houston Symphony Orchestra. 1917 - 1922 conductor of the San Antonio Symphony Orchestra. Director of the Chaminade Choral Society (San Antonio). Head of the music department at Texas Technological College (later Texas Tech University) in Lubbock. guest cellist with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra.

Anecdotes:

* he was the son of violinist and martunist Edouard E. Blitz (1860-1915) and pianist Mattie Louise Miller (1865-1904). He moved to the United States with his family at the age of two.

* he later returned to Belgium at the Ghent Conservatory, where he studied with Paul-Henri-Joseph Lebrun, Joseph Lampens, Joseph Jacobs, Leon Rinskoph, and Edouard Jacobs.

* he had one child, Edouard Marquis Blitz, also an important cellist, who became the assistant principal cellist of the Dallas Symphony.

**** Luigi Boccherini**

1743 - 1805

Italy (later Prussia, Spain)

Important Activity:

Composer - Cellist

Royal Patronage from The Emperor of Prussia, patronage from the Ambassador of the République Française in Madrid.

Music/Publications:

Many own original works, prolific composer. Many tens of quintets and quartets.

Numerous cello concertos and cello sonatas.

Anecdotes:

* When he left Italy he first tried to establish himself in Paris, where the critics spoke of his somewhat 'harsh' tone - however, to the contrary, in later years he prided himself in lightly bowed, ornamented rococo style cello writing!

* Towards the end of his life he found it very difficult to maintain regular aristocratic patronage. He died in great poverty.

**** Martin Bochmann**

1914 - 1983

Germany (later Turkey and Britain)

Important Activity:

Principal cello Mozarteum Orchestra Salzburg. Principal cello NWDR Orchestra.

Professor Cologne and Düsseldorf conservatories.

Member The Collegium Pro Arte. Professor Turkish State National Conservatoire,

Ankara. Professor Reading University.

Anecdotes:

* he was one of the last students of Hugo Becker.

* Father to violinist Michael and composer Christopher.

* Influential teacher of David Johnstone.

**** Ferdinand Bockmann**

1843 - 1913

Important Activity:

Principal cellist of the Dresden Court Orchestra.

Dedications:

R. Strauss - the shortened version of the Romance with piano accompaniment.

Music/Publications:

Bockmann made many editions of old music.

Anecdotes:

* Pupil Sebastian Lee, Magnus Klitz and Kummer.

* Bockmann played Strauss - Cello sonata with the composer at piano.

**** Robert Emil Bockmuhl**

1822 - 1891

Germany

Important Activity:

cellist, arranger & composer

Dedications:

Popper - Sarabande and Gavotte, Op.10 (early 1870s)

Music/Publications:

Prolific output of own original works for cello. His studies (in 5 volumes) were incorporated into the programmes of the Brussels and Munich Conservatoires.

Anecdotes:

* A competent soloist, he lived in Dusseldorf - Schumann (also based there) sought his advice (on technical questions) when writing his Cello concerto (however, he gave 'excuses' as to why he could not rehearse/perform the work!).

**** Carl Leopold Boehm**

1806 - c.1859

Germany

Important Activity:

A court musician to the Prince of Fiirstenburg. Strasburg Theatre Orchestra. Prince of Fiirstenburg private Orchestra.

Music/Publications: Own original compositions, including a cello concerto.

**** Emel Boerngen**

1845 - ????

Germany

Important Activity:

Principal cello Theatre Orchestra Helsingfors. Principal cello Strasburg Theatre Orchestra. Mozarteum Salzburg. Professor Royal Music School at Wurzburg.

Anecdotes:

* a pupil of Fr. Grutzmacher.

**** Maxmilian (Max) Bohrer**

1785 - 1867

Germany

Important Activity:

Member Bavarian court Orchestra. Principal cello Stuttgart Orchestra. Duo with brother Anthony Bohrer. Bohrer Quartet (this group premiered the late-Beethoven String Quartets in Paris in the 1830's). Important tours of St. Petersburg, Italy, America, Northern European countries.

Friendships:

Berlioz

Music/Publications:

Own original works, including virtuoso pieces.

Anecdotes:

* A pupil of Schwarz.

* Brother of Anthony Bohrer (violinist who studied with Kreutzer) - they made regular, and long tours, as a violin-cello duo. Max wrote jointly with brother a double concerto.

* Lost a great deal of his power of execution in later years

* Teacher of Julius Griebel.

* acclaimed in Europe as a cellist, and was very popular in Vienna in the 1820s. Music admirers used to say that Romberg played for immortality, whilst Borer played for the drawing-room.

**** Ennio Bolognini**

1893 – 1979

Argentina (later USA)

Important Activity:

Principal cello Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Founder Las Vegas Philharmonic Orchestra.

Friendships:

Casals, Feuermann.

Anecdotes:

* played with important names; for example, Saint-Saens (played The Swan with composer), Strauss (played Sonata with composer).

* Bolognini's cello is now at the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D.C. It is unique, in that there are 51 signatures inscribed on it, including those of Kreisler, Heifetz, Stern, Szigeti, Liberace, Jack Dempsey, Bruno Walter, Janos Starker, Eugene Ormandy, Miklos Rozsa, etc. Everywhere he went, he asked his friends to sign his cello.

**** Henry William Bonner**

1807 - ????

England

Important Activity:

cellist with the London Philharmonic Concerts in performances in the 1840s.

**** Giovanni Maria Bononcini 'Buononcini'**

1642 – 1678

Italy (later Austria)

Important Activity:

Cellist Imperial Kapelle (Vienna). Later involved in Operatic productions in Vienna.

Anecdotes:

* he studied with his father, then in Colonna (Bologna).

**** Arturo Bonucci**

1894 – 1964

Italy

Important Activity:

Professor Bologna Conservatoire. Professor Academia Chigiana di Siena. Professor Santa Cecilia Academy, Rome.

Solo work in Italy and abroad.

Active chamber music artist.

Anecdotes:

* a pupil of Serato in Bologna.

**** Alexander Porfir'yevich Borodin**

1833 – 1887

Russia

Important Activity:

As a youth he developed parallel interests in music and chemistry, teaching himself the cello and qualifying in medicine (1856). In 1862 he became lecturer at the Medico Surgical Academy in St. Petersburg. However, chiefly known today as an important Russian romantic composer.

**** Valentino Bortoja**

c.1760 - 1818

Italy

Important Activity:

Second cellist (sub-principal) to Anton Kraft in Esterhazy Orchestra (occasionally playing soloist) in 1780's. Later worked in Venice.

Anecdotes:

* Brother of a professional cellist.

**** Hendrik (Henri) Bosmans**

Holland

???? – 1894

Important Activity:

(Sub-orincipal cello?) 'Orchestre of Paleis voor Volksvlijt' in Amsterdam. Co-founder of the Conservatorium van Amsterdam. Principal cellist with the Concertgebouw Orchestra. Trio with violinist Willem Kes, wife Sara Benedicts on piano and Henri at the cello.

Anecdotes:

* Pupil of J.Giese at the Royal Conservatory at The Hague.

* Back in 1884, Henri got to know the Norwegian composer Edvard Grieg. Together they played his Cello Sonata op.36

* he had a great love for chamber music generally

* he died of tuberculosis before his daughter Henriëtte (important Dutch composer) was a year old.

**** Hans Bottermund**

1892 - 1949

Germany

Important Activity:

Principal cello (Berlin Philharmonic), professor in Frankfurt

Anecdotes:

* studied with Klengel, Becker & Schröder

* Had significant problems on being half-Jewish during the Nazi era (Furtwängler tried to stand up for him).

* he played a Guarneri , which was stored in Denmark during World War II on account for being married to a Danish lady, which finally became in her possession after Bottermund's death in 1949

**** Anton Johannes Bouman**

1855 - 1906

Germany

Important Activity:

Cellist and composer

**** (Joseph Charles) Rosario Bourdon**

1885 - 1961

Canada, later U.S.A.

Important Activity:

Conductor, cellist, arranger, composer, record company executive. Member 1901-3 of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra (1901-03). Member Philadelphia Orchestra (1904-08). Member St Paul Symphony Orchestra (Minnesota) as cellist and assistant conductor. Victor Talking Machine Co (the company's house cellist). Music director for Victor, sharing the position with Joseph Pasternak. Conductor Victor Concert Band, the Victor Salon and Symphony Orchestras, Sousa's Band.

Music/Publications:

Own works, generally of lighter style, but including a 'Poeme Elegiaque' for cello and orchestra (premiered in 1943).

Anecdotes:

* At nine he began to study the cello with J-B. Dubois (later to become his stepfather).

* he played cello obbligatos on records made by such singers as Frances Alda, Enrico Caruso (1917, Sancta Maria by Jean-Baptiste Faure), Mabel Garrison, John McCormack, and Alma Gluck

* he performed piano accompaniments for many Victor artists including his fellow cellist Victor Herbert.

* a pioneering conductor for the cinema, and participated in the production of Mickey Mouse and Laurel and Hardy films.

**** Gaetano Braga**

1829 - 1907

Italy

Important Activity:

Mayseder String Quartet.

Anecdotes:

* Pupil Naples conservatoire.

* Principal activity as an opera composer, secondary as cellist. Own original works for cello include 2 cello concertos. Composer of stage compositions.

**** Johannes Brahms**

1833 - 1897

Germany

Important Activity:

Great German composer. As a youngster took cello lessons (at his father's insistence !)

Reached the level to 'more-or-less' play the Romberg concertos!!!

**** Anatoly Brandukov**

1856 - 1930

Russia

Important Activity:

Moscow Philharmonic School of Music and Drama. Professor Moscow Conservatoire.

Played chamber music with Tchaikovsky, Liszt, Rubinstein and Rachmaninov. After revolution, member Bolshoi Theatre, organizing the symphony orchestra

Premieres:

Tchaikovsky - Pezzo Capriccioso, Op.62 (also dedicatee),

Rachmaninov - Trio élégiaque No. 1

Dedications:

Rachmaninov - Cello Sonata in G Minor, Op.19

Fitzenhagen - Gavotte No.2, Op.42

Moor - Cello Sonata No.2, Op.55 (joint dedication with his wife!)

Friendships:

Rachmaninoff (Brandukov was his best man at his wedding!).

Anecdotes:

* A student of Fitzenhagen.

* He performed Saint-Saens - Concerto in A minor with composer conducting.

* Among his students numbered Gregor Piatigorsky.

**** Jean-Baptiste Bréval**

1753 - 1823? 1825?

France

Important Activity:

Professor Paris conservatoire. Member of the Société Académique des Enfants d'Apollon,

Orchestra of Concert Spirituel (member), Orchestra of Théâtre Feydeau (member).

Administration team of 'Concerts de la rue de Cléry'. Paris Opera Orchestra (member).

Music/Publications:

Many own original pieces, studies, and cello method

Anecdotes:

* pupil of Cupis.

**** Horace Britt**

1881 - 1971

Belgium (later France, U.S.A.)

Important Activity:

Principal cello Lamoureux Orchestra (1897), Cologne Orchestra (1898). Principal cello Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Principal cello Philadelphia Orchestra. Principal cello Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, Principal cello Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra. Cellist of Letz Quartet. Cellist of Elman String Quartet. He formed the Britt Trio in the 40s. Professor Curtis Institute, Philadelphia. Professor Emeritus at the University of Texas, Austin

Anecdotes:

* he studied in Antwerp with Gustav Faes, with Jules Delsart at the Paris Conservatoire

* As a conductor he led a number of Federal Music Project concerts. He left New York in the 1940s and taught cello at the University of Texas from 1948 to 1965.

* A New York Times critic had praised his "warm and beautiful tone."

**** Oskar (Oscar) Bruckner**

1857 - 1930

Germany

Important Activity:

Member Grand Ducal Court Theatre in Neustrelitz. Neustrelitz - received title of 'chamber virtuoso'. Principal cello Theatre Royal, Wiesbaden. Professor Wiesbaden Conservatoire. Composer.

Premieres:

Reger - Cello Sonata No.1 (Op.5, 1892) - but even the performing cellist (and dedicatee) called the sonata an unsuccessful work!

Anecdotes:

* Pupil of Herlitz, and Fr. Grutzmacher.

**** Nerio Brunelli**

1898 - 1965

Italy

Important Activity:

Professor Fiume and Pesaro Conservatoires. Professor (chamber music) in Rome Conservatoire. Chamber music groups.

Anecdotes:

* a pupil of Francesco Serato and Bonucci in Bologna

**** Ferdinand Buchler**

1817 - 1891

Germany

Important Activity:

First cellist in Darmstadt Orchestra.

Music/Publications:

Own original pieces and studies (formerly in many music schools). Also cello transcriptions.

Anecdotes:

* Pupil of Menter. In the 'Romberg' school of cello playing.

* Received an injury to an arm, which took toll in solo playing, though he continued as a chamber music musician.

**** Jasha Bunchuk**

1896 - 1944

Ukraine

Important Activity:

Member of the New York Symphony Orchestra (1921-1922); New York Chamber Music Society 1922-1923; he played with the New York Symphony Orchestra and became principal cellist in the orchestra of the Capitol Theatre, the Broadway movie palace, of which he later became musical director. He was also soloist in radio broadcasts from that theatre and the Roxy Theatre, and later conducted the orchestra between 1927-1936 for the popular radio program Major Bowes' Amateur Hour.

Anecdotes:

* He began his studies at the Petrograd Conservatory, where he was a protégé of the composer and conductor Alexander Glazunov.

* He performed throughout Europe and Asia before moving to the United States, where he made his Town Hall debut in New York in 1921.

* After the advent of sound in motion pictures, Bunchuk moved to Los Angeles to work in as a musical director for Columbia Pictures, under the name Sacha Bunchuk.

**** Jan Burian**

1877 - 1942

Czech

Important Activity:

Professor Tiflis (Russia). Professor Prague conservatoire (succeeded Wihan) . Professor Czech Academy (High School).

Anecdotes:

* Student of Wihan.

**** Hermann Busch**

1897 - 1975

Germany (later Switzerland, USA)

Important Activity:

Member Brussels Symphony Orchestra. Principal cello Bochum Orchestra. Principal cello Vienna Symphony Orchestra. Professor Essen Conservatory. Trio (with brothers Fritz and Adolf). Trio Busch-Serkin. Busch String Quartet (successor to Paul Grümmer). Member Adolf Busch Chamber Orchestra. Co-founder Marlboro School of Music. Professor Miami University.

Anecdotes:

* a pupil of Fr. Grutzmacher (Cologne Music Conservatoire).

**** Zygmunt Butkiewicz**

1872 - 1935

Poland

Important Activity:

Soloist

Anecdotes:

* a pupil of Klengel

* a winner of the A. Rubinstein Competition.

**** Antonia Butler**

1909 - 1997

Important Activity:

Cellist Kamaran Piano Trio. Duo performances with violinist Arthur Catterall. Duo with husband, the pianist Norman Greenwood. Professor at the Royal College of Music, the Birmingham School of Music, and the Menuhin School.

Friendships:

Casals. Feuermann.

The composer Arthur Honegger was a personal friend and Butler played his cello sonata in Paris with Honegger's wife as her partner on the piano.

Anecdotes:

* she was a pupil of Julius Klengel at Leipzig Conservatoire, and of Diran Alexanian at Ecole Normale in Paris.

**** Friedrich Buxbaum**

1869 - 1948

Germany(Austria)

Important Activity:

Glasgow Symphony Orchestra, Co-principal cello Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra. Rose String Quartet. Fitzner String Quartet.

Anecdotes:

- * Was the first influential teacher of Feuermann.
- * Buxbaum and Schmidt, the Vienna Phil. two principal cellists had a rather stormy relationship - Mahler (conducting) usually preferring Schmidt, but Rose, the concert-leader, preferring Buxbaum!
- * He was to participate in premieres of works by Johannes Brahms, Erich Wolfgang Korngold, Arnold Schoenberg and Anton Webern.
- * Given highest award by the Vienna Phil - the Nicolai Silver Medal in 1947