

**DIRECTORY / LIBRARY OF FAMOUS HISTORICAL CELLISTS**  
**Surname letter starting with C**

**DIRECTORIO / BIBLIOTECA DE VIOLONCELLISTAS HISTORICOS**  
**FAMOSOS**  
**Apellidos empezando con C**

**\*\* Julius Cabisius**

1841 - 1898

Germany

Important Activity:

Member of the Court Kapelle at Lowenberg and Meiningen. Principal cello Stuttgart Royal Orchestra.

*Anecdotes:*

\* *Pupil of father, then Julius Goltermann (at Prague Conservatoire)*

**\*\* Ernest Cahnbley**

1875 - 1936

Important Activity:

Principal cello with the orchestras of Hanover, Riga, and St. Petersburg. Principal cello Dortmund Orchestra, and professor in Conservatoire there. Adolf Schiering Quartet (in Wurzburg).

**\*\* Antonio Caldara**

1670 - 1736

Italy

Important Activity:

Maestro di cappella, Mantua. Patronage from Charles VI of Austria (pretender to Spanish throne).

*Music/Publications:*

*Own original works.*

**\*\* Antonio Calegari**

??? - ????

Italy (later France)

Important Activity:

*A composer and 'cellist born at Padua about the middle of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, and resided many years at Paris.*

**\*\* ?. Calmus**

???? - 1809

Germany

Important Activity:

A once well-known cellist who worked in Hamburg (Altona) and Dresden

**\*\* Douglas Cameron**

1903 - 1974

Great Britain

Important Activity:

Principal cello - National Symphony Orchestra (London), Kutcher Quartet. Blech String Quartet, London String Quartet, New London String Quartet, Professor Royal Academy of Music (London), Cello tutor National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain

**\*\* Giovanni Battista Canavasso**

1713 - 1784

Italy

Important Activity:

Member Royal Chapel, Paris.

*Music/Publications: published various sonatas for the cello*

*Anecdotes:*

*\* he was born in Turin, with his brother also a professional violinist (who joined him in Paris).*

*\* he was also known as Canavas or Canavaz.*

*\* a member of Royal Chapel from 1735-55.*

**\*\* Thomas Canivez**

1877-1969

Belgium

Important Activity:

Activity as cello soloist, including presentations of unusual (then) 'modern' repertoire

## **\*\* Vera Canning**

??? - ????

Great Britain

Important Activity:

Soloist.

Premieres:

*Hubert Murrill Cello concerto, No.2, 1951 (but dedicated to Casals)*

Anecdotes:

*\* she was the second wife of the composer Herbert Murrill (1909-1952)*

*\* perhaps the highlight of her career was playing the Dvorak concerto with the Royal Scottish Orchestra conducted by George Szell.*

## **\*\* Andrea Caporale**

1700 - 1746

Italy

Important Activity:

Worked under Handel in London (invited by Porpora).

Dedication:

*Handel – composed for him the cello solo in opera 'Deidamia' (3<sup>rd</sup> Act).*

Music/Publications:

*Own original compositions, including 6 cello sonatas and 18 solos .*

Anecdotes:

*\* he was probably born in Naples.*

*\* he came to London in 1735. Was very successful there, on occasions rivalling Cervetto (the son).*

## **\*\* Pierre Cardon**

1751 - ????

France

Important Activity:

A cellist and singer, who tended to favour singing. Singer in Paris Royal Chapel, and both a Paris singing and cello teacher.

Anecdotes:

*\* Taught cello by uncle F. Cardon, who was member of Paris Opera Orchestra.*

**\*\* Pau (Pablo) Casals - the 'Monarch of the Bow'**

1876- 1973

Spain (later France, Puerto Rico)

Important Activity:

Sub-principal cello Rheatre orchestra of the Folies Marigny (Paris). Principal cellist Orchestra of Liceu (Barcelona). Founder of The Ecole Normale de Musique Paris (with Alfred Cortot, August Mangeot, and Thibaud) - for many years Pablo Casals gave consultations at the cello class of this school. Founder and chief conductor Orquesta Pau Casals Barcelona. Trio Thibaud-Casals-Cortot. Conductor-cellist-organizer Prades festival (France). Master classes in Switzerland, Italy, Berkeley, California and Marlboro, Vermont.

Dedications:

Glazounov – Concerto Balata, Op. 108.

Herbert Murrill –Cello Concerto No.2 (1951).

Rodrigo – Sonata a la Breve (dedication in memoriam).

Vierne – Cello Sonata in B Minor.

Ralph Vaughan Williams – Fantasia on Sussex Folk Tunes, for cello and orchestra (and he gave the premiere in 1930).

Granados - Elisenda (unfinished small suite) for cello and piano.

Granados - Madrigal, for cello and piano.

Emanuel Moor – Double Cello Concerto.

E. Moor – Suite, Op.117 (vlc and piano)

E. Moor – Prelude, for cello and piano, Op.123.

Various works of Donald Tovey, including Sonata for Two Cellos.

István JárnyJanetschek – Pavanne Lente (1930).

Casella – Cello Sonata in C minor, Op.8

Manuel Castillo Navarro-Aguilera – 'Ricerca' a Pau Casals (1967).

Montsalvatge - Microrapsòdia (A la memoria de Pau Casals – 1976).

Joaquín Rodrigo – Sonata a la breve (1976-1978 – composed in honour of Casals). Enric Casals – Solo Suite in D Major (1973) and the early work 'Heroica' (1919).

Music/Publications:

Own original works. Auto-biography 'Joys and Sorrows; Reflections' (1973).

Friendships:

Gaspar Cassadó, Grieg (played Grieg's Cello Sonata with the composer), Kreisler (who called him the 'Monarch of the Bow'), Yehudi Menuhin, Diran Elexanian.

**\*\* Juan Ruiz Casaux**

1889 – 1972

Spain

Important Activity:

Professor Madrid Conservatoire. Musical Chief of National Patrimony (Spain). Founder of 'Agrupación Nacional' of Chamber Music.

Anecdotes:

\* *he was a pupil of Mirecki (Madrid), Cros Saint-Ange and André Hekking (Paris).*

\* *he once played Strauss – Don Quixote, with the composer conducting.*

\* *Professor in Madrid Conservatoire between 1920-60 – amongst his pupils were the Spanish cellists Enrique Correa, Carlos Baena and Ricardo Vivó.*

## **\*\* Gaspar Cassadó**

1897 - 1966

Spain (later Italy; brief spells France and Britain)

Important Activity:

New Trio Ensemble (with d'Aranyi and Hess), recitals with Rubinstein, Zecchi, Iturbi, von Mendelssohn, Hara. Masterclasses Siena Accademia Chigiana, Professor Cologne Musik Hochschule

Premieres:

Rodrigo – *Concierto Galante /and dedicatee*),

Morera – *Cello Concerto*,

Joaquín Cassadó (father) – *Cello Concerto*,

Beethoven – *Triple concerto (first ever Barcelona performance)*,

Bacewicz – *Cello Concerto No.2 (written and fp 1963)*.

Pujol Pons – *'Una maravilloso fábula' (A marvellous Tale) – 1922.*

Dedications:

Dallapiccola – *Ciaccona, Intermezzo e Adagio, for solo cello.*

Pfitzner – *Cello Concerto No.2 in G Major, Op.42 (1935)*.

Tomás Buxó Pujadas – *Alegro Appassionato, Op.10.*

Turina - *'El Jueves Santo a medianoche' (Holy Thursday at Midnight) – 1924.*

Friendships:

*Pau Casals (whom he considered his true 'master'), the Japanese pianist Hara later became his wife, Dallapiccol, Yehudi Menuhin.*

Music/Publications:

*Own original works and numerous cello arrangements*

## **\*\* José María Castro**

1892 - 1964

Argentina

Important Activity:

Member Orchestra of Teatro Colon, Buenos Aires. String Quartet of the Sociedad Argentina de Música de Cámara. Principal cello Orquesta de Cámara de la Asociación del Profesorado Orquestal (A.P.O.). Trio and Quartet of the Wagner Association of Buenos Aires. Member Orquesta de Cámara Renacimiento (Argentina).

Principal Conductor Orquesta de Cámara de la Asociación del Profesorado Orquestal (A.P.O.). Conductor Municipal Band of Buenos Aires. Invited conductor Orquesta Sinfónica de Rosario (Argentina). Professor Santa Cecilia Conservatoire, and of Manuel de Falla Municipal Conservatoire. Founder of 'Grupo Renovación'. General Secretary of the Argentine Composers League.

*Music/Publications:*

*Own original works, including ballet music, concerto for cello and 17 instruments, concerto for orchestra, a Cello sonata, and 3 string quartets.*

*Anecdotes:*

*\* with a solid cello career he turned his direction to conducting, and music organization.*

*\* a modest, introverted, even austere man who was an important figure in the modernization of the musical scene in Argentina.*

## **\*\* Tamburi Cemil Bey**

1873 - 1916

Turkey

Important Activity:

Ottoman tambur, yaylı tambur, kemençe, and lavta virtuoso and composer, who also played cello!

## **\*\* Andreas Ten Cate**

1796 - 1858

Holland

Important Activity:

cellist - composer

*Music/Publications:*

*Own original pieces, including 2 cello concertos.*

*Anecdotes:*

*\* a pupil of Jan Georg. Bertelmann*

*\*In the first instance he was thinking of a career on commerce, but decided for music!*

*\* Mainly devoted his mature career to music of the stage.*

## **\*\* ?. Centola**

1894 - ????

Italy

Important Activity:

A noteworthy Naples cellist

**\*\* Vasa Cerny**

1900 - 1982

Czech

Important Activity:

Principal cello Czech Philharmonic Orchestra. Founder-member Janacek String Quartet.

Anecdotes:

*\* a pupil of Jan Burian (Prague Conservatoire).*

**\*\* Giacomo B. Cervetto**

1682 - 1783

Italy (later Britain)

Important Activity:

Cellist London Drury Lane Theatre (later artistic director).

Music/Publications:

*Own original works*

Anecdotes:

*\* One of first empresarios/managers in music. Lived to 101 years old.*

**\*\* James Cervetto**

1747 - 1837

Britain

Important Activity:

Member Queen's Orchestra, Lord Abingdon's Private Orchestra, Trio (with Clemente and Cramer), Member Consort of Ancient Music, Member Band of the Opera, Member Royal Society of Musicians

Music/Publications:

*Own original pieces*

Friendships:

*Duport brothers, Crosdill*

Anecdotes:

*\* Son of Italian emigrant cellist G.B. Cervetto (1682 - 1783)*

*\* From about 1774 he played at the King's Theatre and was admired for his skilful accompaniment of recitatives: Banvard records 'It was his [the Prince of Wales] delight to attend the Italian opera merely to hear Cervetto's accompaniments of the recitatives which were acknowledged to be unrivalled'.*

## **\*\* Charlie Chaplin**

1889 – 1977

Britain (later USA)

*It is not generally known that apart from his work as a great actor and film director, Charlie Chaplin was a proficient cellist. More than that, he was also the composer of several cello works. The strange thing is that Chaplin, left-handed, took to the cello playing with the hands the 'wrong way around' – and never changed later in life!!*

## **\*\* Louis Charbonneau**

1865 – 1927

Canada

Important Activity:

Member Montreal Symphony Orchestra. Founder-member (c.1890) 'Trio de Montreal' (with Frantz Jehin-Prume and Émery Lavigne). Quartet (with de Sève, Taranto and O. Zimmerman). Founder of Quebec Musicians' Association (1917), and its president until 1920.

Anecdotes:

*\*he started the violin, and only changed to cello aged 20! Studied under Alwin Schroeder in Boston.*

*\*he was the teacher of Rodolphe Plamondon*

## **\*\* M. Cherniavsky**

1893 – 1982

Russia

Important Activity:

Soloist

Anecdotes:

*\* Student of Wierzbilowieszc, Popper and Walenn.*

## **\*\* Pierre Alexandre François Chevilliard**

1811-1877

France

Important Activity:

Professor Paris Conservatoire, Chevilliard Quartet (with Maurin, Sabbatier and Mas)

Music/Publications:

*Own studies and cello method*

Anecdotes:

\* *pupil of Norblin.*

## **\*\* Luigi Chiarappa**

1890 - ????

Italy

Important Activity:

Principal cello Augusteo Orchestra. Principal cello Santa Cecilia Orchestra, Rome.

Italian Quartet. Chamber music professor Santa Cecilia Conservatoire, Rome.

Anecdotes:

\* *a pupil of G. Magrini in Milan, and Hugo Becker in Berlin.*

## **\*\* Gilles-Louis Chretien**

1754 - 1811

France

Important Activity:

Member Royal Orchestra (Paris). Member Imperial Orchestra.

Music/Publications:

*not known any own original compositions, but was a modest writer on musical subjects.*

Anecdotes:

\* *Possessed 'readiness' and 'good tone' but supposedly without displaying much artistic expression!*

\* *Lost first employment by the F*

*rench revolution, before being received into imperial Orchestra*

## **\*\* Gaetano Ciandelli**

1810? 1814? - ????

Italy

Important Activity:

*Famed for the episode with Paganini, his friend. Paganini deposited in him his 'secret' to playing, and Ciandella supposedly miraculously improved in just three days ! But, Ciandelli, a cello teacher himself, later considered Paganini's advice hardly helpful or inspirational, however! ...*

## **\*\* Giovanni Battista Cirri**

1724 – 1808

Italy (later France, Britain)

Important Activity:

Member Accademia Filarmonica (Bologna). Principal cello Teatro dei Fiorentini (Naples).

Maestro di cappella at Forlì Cathedral (succeeding his brother). Chamber musician to

Duke of York. Director of music to Duke of Gloucester..

*Music/Publications:*

*own original works. His cello sonatas are still well used today by student cellists.*

*Anecdotes:*

*\* He played solos at the eight-year-old Mozart's first public concert in London.*

*\* Cellist and organist. In 1739 he was admitted to Holy Orders but decided to pursue a musical career.*

*\* He also participated in the Bach-Abel Concerts, which were very popular at that time.*

## **\*\* ?. Ciyetto**

??? - ????

?. Italy

Important Activity:

a 'cellist active in the latter part of the 18<sup>th</sup> century

## **\*\* Raymond Clark**

??? - ????

Great Britain

Important Activity:

BBC Symphony Orchestra (sub-principal cello), Principal cello Royal Philharmonic

Orchestra, Principal cello Philharmonia Orchestra (London). (Occasional) Principal

Cello Royal Opera House Orchestra, London.

*Anecdotes:*

*\* almost self-taught – picked up experience playing in pit orchestras in his native Yorkshire!*

*\* his few soloist performances were very noted (once substituting for Fournier in 'Don Quixote' many considered his interpretation equal to that of Fournier himself).*

\*\* Holocaust Victim - **Ernst Cohn** - Cellist, trombonist and banjo (light music), born in Cologne 24/01/1892

\*\* (COMTE de) **Stainlein, Louis-Charles-Georges-Corneille**

1819 - 1867

Hungary

Important Activity:

Concerts in France with Sivori, Ney etc.

*Music/Publications:*

*composer and cellist, wrote chamber music and songs*

\*\* **Michel Corrette**

1709 - 1795

France

Important Activity:

One of the most versatile musicians ever ! Violinist, composer, writer – and cellist ...

Wrote 2 cello methods, but also methods for flute, organ, viol, harpsichord, accompaniment, double bass, violin, theory, and viola! Also a prolific composer including 6 cello sonatas 'Les Délices de la Solitude', Op. 20.

\*\* **Bernhard Cossmann**

1822 – 1910

Germany

Important Activity:

Grand Opera, Paris. Principal cello Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra. Principal cello Weimar Orchestra. Professor Moscow Conservatoire. Professor (and joint-founder) the Hoch Conservatory in Frankfurt.

Chamber music recitals with Brahms.

*Dedications:*

*Piatti – 12 Caprices*

*Popper - Mazurka No.1, Op.11 (1874)*

*Music/Publications:*

*Many own original pieces and studies*

*Special friendships: Liszt, Mendelssohn*

**\*\* Giovanni Battista Costanzi**

1704 - 1778

Italy

Important Activity:

Service of Cardinal Pietro Ottoboni. Cellist at S. Luigi dei Francesi in Rome. He was also *maestro di capella* at various churches in Rome: Madonna di Loreto in 1742, and S. Marco e S. Maria in Vallicella. Maestro di cappella of the Cappella Giulia (Rome).

*Music/Publications:*

*many own original works*

**\*\* COUNT Mathieu Vielgorsky**

1794 - 1866

Russia

Important Activity:

An excellent chamber music cellist of professional ability !

*He was dedicated works by:*

*Romberg – Cello concerto No.7*

*Schumann – Piano Quartet, Op.7 (and premiered by Clara Schumann, Ferdinand David, Niels Gade, and Vielgorsky himself on cello).*

*Mendelssohn – Cello sonata No.2, Op.58 (he gave the premiere with the composer at piano!).*

*Also dedicated pieces by Servais and Wieniawsky*

**\*\* COUNT of Otyka and Nieswicz - Anton HEINRICH RADZIWIŁŁ**

Alternative spellings: [Antoni Henryk Radziwiłł / Toni Henryk Radziwiłł Frost / in German: Anton Heinrich Radziwiłł]]

1755 - 1833

Poland

Important Activity:

He was appointed by the King of Prussia, in 1815, Governor of the Grand Duchy of Posen. Was an aristocratic Pole - a politician, business-man, cellist, singer, and composer ! Maintained contact with great artists such as Paganini, von Goethe, Chopin, Beethoven. Wrote incidental music to Goethes, also some songs for cello and piano, and cello and guitar.

**\*\* Elizabeth Cowling**

1910 - 1997

USA

Important Activity:

Professor at Grennsboro – University of South Carolina.

Anecdotes:

\* a pupil of Bazelaire, Mischa Schneider, Pablo Casals.

\* a long collaborative work with cellist Luigi Silva. Performance research was a significant part to her career. A dedicated teacher.

\* also a Viola da gamba player, teacher and scholar.

## **\*\* Gilberto Crepax**

1890 - 1970

Italy

Important Activity:

Professor Parma conservatoire. Professor Milan Conservatoire. Principal cello La Scala Opera Orchestra, Milan. Principal cello Orchestra Toscanini.

Music:

Wrote educational works. Edited Boccherini sonatas.

Anecdotes:

\* a pupil of E. Dini and P. Montecchi in Venice.

\* Students included Antonio Janigro, M. Anfitheatroff, M. Gusella, B. Vitale, I.N. Albertelli and L. Rossi.

## **\*\* Caspar Cristelli**

1730 - ????

Austria (of Italian descent)

Important Activity:

Member Italian Orchestra of Araia. Court musician of Czar Peter II. Service of Archbishop of Salzburg (as cellist and chief composer).

Anecdotes:

\* played in Araia together with cellist Dall'Oglio.

\* Also, he highly distinguished himself as a cello accompanist to vocal recitatives.

## **\*\* Lisa (Barbier) Cristiani**

1827 - 1853

France

Important Activity:

Unusual female cellist with short but brilliant soloist career.

*Dedications:*

Mendelssohn – *Song without words (Op. 109)*.

*Anecdotes:*

\* *Died whilst trying to undertake a gruelling tour of remote Russian and Siberia regions, as had done Servais before her.*

\* *She played a 1700 Stradivarius cello (the 'Christiani' cello).*

## **\*\* Saint-Ange Cros**

1855 - 1919

France

Professor Paris Conservatoire 1900 - 1917

*Anecdotes:*

\* *a pupil of Franchomme*

\* *he was very connected to Paris Conservatoire (Societaire 1882-1906).*

## **\*\* John Crosdill**

1755 - 1825

Britain

Important Activity:

Member 'Concert of Ancient Music', Member Royal Chapel. Principal cello Orchestra Festivals of the Three Choirs, Member of the King's Band, Chamber Musician to Queen Charlotte. Member Royal Society of Musicians.

*Friendships:*

*James Cervetto*

*Anecdotes:*

\* *One of the greatest performers on the 'cello in his time.*

\* *Taught the Prince of Wales – later King George IV*

## **\*\* Frederick Nicholls Crouch**

1808 - 1896

Britain (later USA)

Important Activity:

Member King's Theatre Orchestra, London. St. Paul's Cathedral Orchestra, London.

*Anecdotes:*

\* *he was also a serious composer, his works including 2 operas. His most famous song today is undoubtedly 'Kathleen Mavourneen'.*

\* *Tried various commercial and musical undertakings in the USA without apparent success.*

\* *he was an occasional trumpet player.*

## **\*\* Frederick William Crouch**

1808 - 1844

Britain

Important Activity:

King's Theatre Orchestra

Music/Publications:

*Own original pieces. Wrote a 'Complete Treatise on the cello' (1826).*

Anecdotes:

\* *father of cellist Frederick Nicholls Crouch*

\* *Excellent English cellist in the early part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.*

## **\*\* Arturo Cuccoli**

1868 - 1936

Italy

Important Activity:

Warsaw Trio. Heller String Quartet. Professor Padova Musical Institute.

Music/Publications:

*various compositions and a Method for the cello.*

Anecdotes:

\* *he firstly studied with his brother, and then Serato.*

\* *as a soloist he made tours of European and American countries.*

\* *he was the teacher to G. Francesconi and C. Oblach.*

## **\*\* Richard Cudmore**

1787 - 1840

Britain

Important Activity:

Cellist. Director of Orchestra of the 'Gentlemen's Concerts' in Manchester

Music/Publications:

*Own original compositions.*

Anecdotes:

\* *Pupil of Reinagle.*

\* *Also played violin and piano.*

## **\*\* Marion Cumbo**

1899 – 1990

U.S.A.

Important Activity:

Amsterdam Theatre Orchestra (1919). Cellist Negro String Quartet (1920's). Cellist in Broadway Productions. Soloist with Philadelphia Concert Orchestra (black symphonic group). Ensemble 'Symphony of the New World' (1964-78). Member Cosmopolitan Symphony Orchestra, and Senior Musicians' Orchestra.

*Anecdotes:*

\* *a pupil of Willem Willeke at Institute of Musical Art (later Juillard School). Also with Leonard Jeler and Bruno Steindl (in Chicago).*

\* *he was famed for his bold role in the 'New Negro' movement, striving for equal rights and access for black musicians in the classical symphonic field.*

## **\*\* François (Jean Baptiste ?) Cupis**

1741? (1732?) - 1808

France (later Italy)

Important Activity:

Principal cello Opera Orchestra (Paris).

*Music/Publications:*

*Own original pieces, and a Cello method.*

*Anecdotes:*

\* *Pupil of Berteau.*

\* *Taught Levasseur and J.B. Breval.*

\* *Nothing is known of his later years, after marriage to a celebrated Italian singer in 1794.*

## **\*\* Gabriel Cusson**

1903 – 1972

Canada

Important Activity:

A generally all-round musician – he studied cello with Gustave Labelle, but also voice, piano and organ. As a result of winning the Prix d'Europe for cello playing in 1924, he studied with Alexanian (cello) and N. Boulanger (composition) in Paris. Once again in

Canada, he taught advanced counterpoint, music theory, and composed orchestral and vocal music.

**\*\* Eva Czako Janzer**

1926 - 1978

India (later Hungary, USA)

Important Activity:

Grumiaux Trio. Professor University of Hanover. Professor Indiana University School of Music.

Anecdotes:

\* *Pupil Budapest Music Academy, Budapest.*

\* *she was the wife of famed violist Georges Janzer.*

**\*\* Béla Csuka**

1893 - 1957

Important Activity:

Hungarian Trio of Berlin. Principal cello Budapest National Opera (from 1913).

Anecdotes:

\* *a pupil of A. Schiffer and David Popper in Budapest Music Academy.*

**\*\* Aurel Czerwenka**

1860 - ????

Hungary (later Germany)

Important Activity:

Principal cello Mannsfeld Orchestra of Dresden. Principal cello of Land Theatre.

Professor Steiermark Musical Union, Gratz.

Premieres:

*Zemlinsky - Cello Sonata (also dedicatee)*

Anecdotes:

\* *a pupil of Grützmacher in Dresden*