

*DIRECTORY / LIBRARY OF FAMOUS HISTORICAL CELLISTS*

*Surname letter starting with G*

*DIRECTORIO / BIBLIOTECA DE VIOLONCELLISTAS HISTORICOS FAMOSOS*

*Apellidos empezando con G*

**\*\* Domenico Gabrielli** - *'Dominic of the Cello'*

1651 - 1690

Italy

Important Activity:

Member Orchestra of the Church of San Petronio (Bologna), Accademia Filarmonica of Bologna (member, later president). Court of Duke Francesco II d'Este of Modena..

*Music/Publications:*

*Own original works for cello*

**\*\* Fritz Gaillard**

1875 - 1939

Important Activity:

Principal cello Concertgebouw Orchestra (Amsterdam, 1905-20). Member Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra.

*Premieres:*

*D'Albert – Cello Concerto (American premiere in 1926).*

*Anecdotes:*

*\* he retired from the Los Angeles Orchestra after the 1938-39 season*

**\*\* Domenico Galli**

1650 - 1697

Italy

Important Activity:

*cellist & composer*

*Music/Publications:*

*Own original pieces, including solo unaccompanied 12 sonatas (with unusual string tuning Bb, F, C, G) which were probably inspired by his association with Gabrielli.*

**\*\* Stefano (or Salvatore) Galeotti**

c. 1700 - ????

Italy - also worked in England, France and Holland.

Important Activity:

cellist & composer

*Music/Publications:* wrote sonatas for the cello

*Anecdotes:*

\* also known as 'Galliot'.

**\*\* Moritz Ganz**

1806 - 1868

Germany

Important Activity:

Member of Berlin Court Orchestra. Concert tours with brother. King of Prussia conferred the title of Concertmaster.

*Music/Publications:*

*Original own works, including cello concertos.*

*Anecdotes:*

\* the brother of Leopold Ganz (violinist).

\* a pupil of his father and Stiasny.

**\*\* Raya Garbousova**

1909 - 1997

Georgia (later Germany, France)

Important Activity:

Professor Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, Professor at Hartt College of Music in Connecticut. Masterclasses in Aspen, the Cleveland Institute of Music, and Indiana University, as well as in China. She was a generous supporter of the Chicago Cello Society, also giving several Master Classes.

*Premieres:*

*Martini* – 3<sup>rd</sup> Cello Sonata,

*Prokofiev* – Cello Sonata,

*Barber* – Cello Concerto, (also dedicated to her).

She also introduced works of Creston, Hindemith, and Lopatnikoff, and edited many new works for publication.

Dedications:

Rieto – Cello Concerto (1956),

Rathaus – Rapsodia Notturna (1950).

Friendships:

Emanuel Feuermann, Milstein, Horowitz, Piatigorsky, Rose, Prokofiev,

Rachmaninoff, Huberman, Szigeti, Morini, Stern, Oistrakh, Fournier, du Pré,

Starker, Rostropovich, Nelsova, Greenhouse.

## **\*\* Quirino Gasparini**

???? – 1770

Italy

Important Activity:

1749 appointed Kapellmeister at the Court of Turin, where he remained until 1770

*Distinguished cellist, but chiefly known as composer of church music (no cello pieces are known by him)*

## **\*\* José García Jacot**

1855 – 1912

(Spain/Catalonia, later Argentina)

Important Activity:

Member ‘Chamber Music Quartet’ of Barcelona. Principal cello Theatre Orchestra and Royal Chapel, Madrid. Professor Madrid Conservatoire. Professor Liceo School, Barcelona. Principal cello Odeón Theatre Orchestra, Buenos Aires. Principal cello Opera Orchestra, Buenos Aires. Professor ‘Santa Cecilia’ Musical Institute, Buenos Aires. Professor ‘Thibaud-Piazzini’ Conservatoire, Buenos Aires. Professor ‘Beethoven’ Musical Institute, Buenos Aires.

Anecdotes:

\* *pupil of Fargas (in the Liceo Filarmónico-Dramático Barcelonés)*

\* *perhaps his chief fame to posterior fame is that he was the teacher of Pau Casals in Barcelona.*

*He also taught José María Castro, Athos Palma, Ennio Bolognini.*

\* *at the very end of his life he lived shortly in Montevideo, Uruguay.*

## **\*\* Maurice Gendron**

1920 – 1990

France

Important Activity:

Professor Paris Conservatoire, Mozarteum in Salzburg, the Menuhin School (England), and in Saarbrücken. Duo (vlc-pno) with Jean Françaix, Duo (vlc-pno) with Dinu Lipatti. Trio with Yehudi and Hepzibah Menuhin.

Premieres:

*Jean Françaix - Variations de Concert,*

*Prokofiev – (1st) Cello Concerto (first West-European performance).*

Friendships:

*Jean Cocteau, Jean Neveu, Ginette Neveu, Picasso, Jean Françaix, Francis Poulenc, Pau Casals. (His idol was Emanuel Feuermann)*

Anecdotes:

*\* he taught at Paris Conservatoire 1970-90.*

*\* so sadly, serious doubts have recently been cast on his treatment and abuse of young student cellists of promise*

## **\*\* George Georgescu**

1887 – 1964

Rumania

Important Activity:

Cellist and conductor.

Anecdotes:

*\* at first he was interested in being a serious professional cellist, and he was a pupil of Hugo Becker (Berlin). In fact, he soon after replaced Becker as cellist of the Marteau Quartet. He performed throughout Europe with this group for the next four years.*

*\* However, after such professional promise, a hand injury (from a railway carriage door!) led him to seek a conducting career.*

*\* Both R. Strauss and A. Nikisch befriended him, giving him chances with orchestras such as the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra. Georgescu made his public debut in that capacity on 15th February, 1918, leading the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra.*

*\* a close associate of George Enescu (he gave the premiere of Enescu's First Symphony)*

*\* He became conductor of the Bucharest Philharmonic Orchestra, and with regular invitations abroad.*

*\* Quotation: "All I know, I learned from Hugo Becker" - – George Georgescu, on studying with the celebrated cellist*

*\* he received honors from the French and (communist) Romanian governments*

## **\*\* Jean Gérardy**

1877 – 1929

Belgium

Important Activity:

Trio (with Karl Flesch and Schnabel). Soloist – American tours etc.

Premieres:

*Joseph Jongen – Cello Concerto (1900, Paris).*

Anecdotes:

\* *he studied at Verviers Conservatoire*

\* *he was teacher of Hans Kindler.*

\* *Gerardy gave up concertizing in later life.*

\* *With the outbreak of the First World War, Gérardy (a Belgian) left the trio as he could no longer remain in Germany; Becker replaced him in the trio (and then Piatigorsky took over from Becker).*

## **\*\* Francois-Auguste Gevaert**

1828-1908

Belgium

Important Activity:

Professor Brussels Conservatory (1870-1907). Not specifically a cellist.

Anecdotes:

\* *Editor of Ancient music.*

\* *Edited/arranged in 1890 the formerly popular, but today little-used version of Haydn – Concerto in D major.*

\* *Wrote an organ method.*

\* *Wrote the National Anthem for Belgian Congo!*

## **\*\* Georgio Frederico Ghedini**

1892 – 1965

Italy

Important Activity:

Composer and conductor. Composition and academic Professor at Turin Conservatory, Parma Conservatoire and Milan Conservatory. Second study cellist!

## **\*\* Luigi Stefano Giarda**

1868 – 1953

Italy (later Chile)

Important Activity:

Principal cello La Scala Opera Orchestra, Milan. Professor Padova Musical Institute. Professor Naples Conservatoire. Ferni String Quartet.

*Music/Publications: various compositions and a harmony treatise.*

*Anecdotes:*

- \* a pupil of Magini (Milan).*
- \* he performed as soloist in different European cities.*
- \* in about 1920 he emigrated to Chile.*

## **\*\* Fritz Giese**

1859 – 1896

Holland

Important Activity:

Concert tour through Sweden, Norway and Denmark. Principal cello Amsterdam Park Orchestra. Mendelssohn Quintet Club of Boston, Massachusetts. Member of the Philharmonic Club and its successor, the Boston Symphony Orchestra (1884-1889). Member Kneisel Quartet (Boston). Professor National Conservatory of Music in New York.

*Anecdotes:*

- \* the son of cellist Joseph Giese. So advanced as boy that he publically performed Romberg's 2nd cello concerto at aged 10!*
- \* he studied with Friedrich Grützmacher in Dresden and Léon Jacquard in Paris.*
- \* A successful performance before the King earned him the title 'Solo cellist to His Majesty' (Holland)*
- \* Despite his phenomenal successes, Fritz Giese's short life must have been sad. The effects of alcohol abuse became audible in his playing, and were the cause of his untimely death at age 37, in 1896.*

## **\*\* Joseph Giese**

1821 – 1903

Germany

Important Activity:

Concert tours through France and Switzerland. Professor Royal School of Music (The Hague). Principal cello French Theatre (The Hague).

*Anecdotes:*

- \* a pupil of Moritz Ganz*
- \* the teacher of many students, including Anton Hekking, Henri Bosmans (father of composer Henriette Bosmans) and his only son Fritz.*

**\*\* Lev Solomonovich Ginsberg**

1907 - 1981

Bielorussia

Important Activity:

Professor Moscow Conservatoire.

*Music/Publications:*

*wrote books on a number of important historical string players.*

*Anecdotes:*

*\* a pupil of Semyon Kozopulov. Gained degree by a dissertation on Boccherini, and doctorate for early historic investigation of the cello.*

**\*\* François Joseph Giraud**

???? - c. 1788

France

Important Activity:

Member Paris Opera Orchestra. Chamber musician to King (Académie Royale de Musique), Paris. Member Concert Spirituel.

*Music/Publications:*

*Own original works. He composed, in conjunction with Berton, the ballet-opera of "Deucabon et Pyrrha," which was performed in 1755, and considered his most successful work. In 1762, he composed an opera. Also wrote 6 cello sonatas, interesting slow movements, but less so the faster movements.*

*Anecdotes:*

*\* in royal service 1752-76.*

**\*\* Dorothy Godfrey**

1902 - 1975

Scotland

Important Activity:

Cellist of the Falconer String Quartet

**\*\* Jozef Goebelt**

1826 - 1892

Poland

Important Activity:

Principal cello in the Opera Theatre Orchestra, Warsaw.

Anecdotes:

\* *also a cello professor.*

## **\*\* Daniel van Goens**

1858 – 1904

Holland

Important Activity:

Cellist & composer

Music/Publications:

*many own works for cello, including 2 cello concertos and the famous 'Scherzo'.*

Anecdotes:

\* *he studied in Paris Conservatoire.*

## **\*\* Georg Goltermann**

1824 – 1898

Germany

Important Activity:

Music Director in Würzburg, Municipal Theater Stadttheatre in Frankfurt-am-Main  
(Deputy Music Director, later Kappellmeister-Main Director)

Dedications:

*Popper - Cello Concerto No.1 in D minor, Op.8 (1871)*

Music/Publications:

*Many own original pieces and arrangements*

Friendships:

Grieg

## **\*\* Johann August (Julius) Goltermann**

*(note: not to be confused with George Goltermann, cellist and composer!)*

1825 – 1876

Germany

Important Activity:

Professor Prague Conservatoire (1850-1862). Principal cello Stuttgart Orchestra (1862-1870).

*Dedications:*

Eckert – Cello Concerto in D minor, Op.26

*Anecdotes:*

\* a pupil of Kummer and Auguste Christian Prell

\* the teacher of David Popper

## **\*\* Albert Gowa**

1843 – ??? (at least 1895)

Germany

*Important Activity:*

Principal cello Buckeburg Court.

*Anecdotes:*

\* a pupil of Fr. Grutzmacher and Davidov.

\* as soloist he gave appearances in Germany, Denmark and Britain.

## **\*\* Johann Andreas Grabau**

1809 – 1886

Germany

*Important Activity:*

Member Gewandhaus Orchestra (Leipzig).

*Dedications:*

Schumann – Five Pieces in Folkstyle, Op.102 [Schumann dedicated his Five Pieces in Folk Style for cello (violin ad libitum) and piano, Op. 102, published in 1851, to Andreas Grabau. A year earlier, the cellist, together with Clara Schumann, had performed the work to Schumann on his 40th birthday in private.]

Carl Reinecke - Cello Sonata No.1

*Anecdotes:*

\* a pupil of Gustave Knoop (Meiningen).

\* A well-esteemed string quartet player.

## **\*\* Gebhard Graf**

1843? 1848? – ???

Bavaria

*Important Activity:*

Principal Cello Princes' Kapelle, Sondershausen. Principal cello Bilsse Orchestra. Service of Grand Ducal Kapelle at Strelitz. Principal cello Grand Ducal Orchestra of Brunswick.

*Anecdotes:*

\* *a pupil of Hippolyte Muller.*

\* *she was for 14 years a star in the Brunswick post.*

## **\*\* Nicolai Graudan**

1896 – 1964

Russia (later Britain, USA).

Important Activity:

Principal cello Berlin Philharmonic. Principal cello Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra. Professor Aspen Festival and Music Academy of the West in Santa Barbara. Member Festival Quartet (with William Primrose).

*Anecdotes:*

\* *when Hitler came to power, Graudon left Germany to go to London and then to the USA*

## **\*\* Marcus (Markus) Heinrich Graul**

1742 – 1798

Germany

Important Activity:

Member Royal Orchestra, Berlin.

*Music/Publications: own original pieces for cello (not published).*

\* *living and working in Berlin during the 1760s.*

## **\*\* Carlo Graziani**

1725 – 1787

Italy

Important Activity:

Member Court Orchestra of Prussian king. Tutor/Instructor to the Crown Prince of Prussia (later to be Frederick William II).

*Music/Publications:*

*Own original works, published in Berlin (1780) and afterwards in Paris.*

*These include various sonatas, a concerto and a caprice.*

*Anecdotes:*

*\* When the French violoncellist, Duport (the elder), came to Berlin, in 1773, Graziani lost his post at the Prussian Court ! He died in Potsdam in 1787.*

**\*\* Eleanor 'Kitty' Gregorson**

1903 – 2004

Scotland

Important Activity:

Played in the Reid Orchestra and with the BBC Scottish Orchestra; important Scottish cello teacher

*Anecdotes:*

*\* Pupil at the Royal College of Music, London, but was forced to give up studies at the institution*

*\* she was described as she “threw herself into her life's work of teaching the cello”.*

*\* she lived over a hundred years and was very active in older age*

**\*\* Julius Griebel**

1809 – 1865

Germany

Important Activity:

Sub-principal cello Berlin Hofkapelle (alongside Ganz). Zimmerman String Quartet.

*Anecdotes:*

*\* a pupil of father and Max Bohrer.*

**\*\* Johann Benjamin Gross**

1809 – 1848

Germany

Important Activity:

Member Konigstadt Theatre Orchestra, Berlin. Liphart String Quartet.

Principal cello Imperial Theatre, St. Petersburg.

*Music/Publications:*

*Own original works, including two cello concertos, cello and piano recital works, cello duos, chamber music (especially string quartets), and songs.*

*Anecdotes:*

*\* he was regarded as one of the best and most infallible German cellists of his time, and a superb quartet player.*

\* *He was a virtuoso cellist, but not in the manner which lead to a 'fan club'; he played correctly, poetically and dreamily.*

## **\*\* Heinrich Grosse**

1764 - 1806

Germany

Important Activity:

Member Royal Orchestra, Berlin.

Anecdotes:

\* *a pupil of Duport (the younger).*

## **\*\* Paul Grummer**

1879 - 1965

Germany

Important Activity:

Kubelik Quartet, Busch Quartet, Principal cello Vienna Konzertverein (Opera Orchestra). Professor Vienna Music Academy, Professor in both Cologne and Berlin Hochschule. Played with Busch Quartet. Member Stross Quartet. Duos with harpsichordist Wanda Landowska. Visiting professor at Lisbon and Salzburg.

Dedications:

*Reger – Suite for solo cello No.3.*

*Bortkiewicz – Three Pieces, Op.25 (1922) (vlc and piano)*

*Works by Wolf-Ferrari and Tcherpnin.*

Music/Publications:

*Own teaching pieces and methods. Edited Beethoven trios (with Carl Herrman). Published a 'Viola da Gamba' School (method book) in 1928. Also published an autobiography 'Encounters' in 1963.*

Anecdotes:

\* *Helped enormously the Viola da gamba revival in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.*

## **\*\* Heinrich (Jindrich) Grünfeld**

1855 - 1931

Austria/Czech

Important Activity:

Principal cello Comic Opera Orchestra, Vienna. Teacher Neue Akademie der Tonkunst, Berlin . Organizer of Berlin 'Trio Soirees'. Court cellist to King William of Prussia.

*Dedications:*

*Popper - 2 Dances from Op.54 - L'Andalouse & Vito (1883-87)*

*Anecdotes:*

\* *a pupil of Hegenbarth (Prague conservatoire).*

\* *the brother of Alfred Grünfeld (Austrian pianist and composer).*

\* *the critics generally remarked on his 'beautiful tone'.*

## **\*\* Friedrich Wilhelm Ludwig Grützmacher**

1832 - 1903

Germany

*Important Activity:*

David String Quartet, Leipzig Theatre Orchestra, Principal cello Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra, Professor Leipzig Conservatoire, Principal cello Dresden Court Orchestra, Professor Dresden Conservatory. Professor Gürzenich Conservatory (Cologne).

*Premieres:*

*Schumann - 5 Pieces in Folk Style, Op.102,*

*Schumann - Fantasy Pieces (cello version),*

*Schumann - Adagio and Allegro (cello version), Schumann - 3 Romances (cello version),*

*Strauss - Don Quixote (in doubt - maybe premiered by his son!).*

*Beethoven - Violin Romances Op.40 and Op.50 (in his own versions).*

*Dedications:*

*Franz Neruda - Cello Sonata, Op.39, and also the '3 Pieces', Op.39*

*Oskar Wermann - Sonata for cello and organ, Op.58 (1889)*

*Emil Hartmann - Cello Concerto in D minor, Op.26*

*Hans Huber - Cello sonata No.1, Op.33*

*Reinecke - Cello Concerto in D minor, Op.82 (1864)*

*S. De Lange - Cello Concerto No.1*

*Music/Publications:*

*Own original pieces, studies and arrangements for cello.*

*Friendships:*

*Clara Schumann, Grieg (performed cello sonata with composer), Brahms*

## **\*\* Leopold Grützmacher**

1835 - 1900

Germany

*Important Activity:*

Member Gewandhaus Orchestra Leipzig, Principal cello Schwerin Hofkapelle. Principal cello Landestheater in Prague. Title of 'chamber virtuoso' in Weimar.

Well-known chamber musician.

*Music/Publications:*

*Own original works, including 2 cello concertos.*

*Anecdotes:*

*\* he was the brother of the more famous Friedrich.*

## **\*\* Alberico Guidi**

1893-1976

Italy

Important Activity:

with his brother and sister the formed the Trio Guidi; Italian New York Chamber Music Society: 1923-1926 Member of the New York Symphony Orchestra (1924-1928/1924-1949, see anecdotes); New York Philharmonic (1929- 1949). He also was previously a member of the Musica String Quartet and for several years played with the Queen's Hall Symphony Orchestra in London.

*Anecdotes:*

*\* he studied the cello with Achille Rossi in Venice and later worked with the Hungarian virtuoso Dezsö Kordy and, in London, with William E. Whitehouse.*

*\* Alberico Guidi made his concert debut at Queen's Hall in London when he was 18 and, which made frequent appearances in England and France.*

*\*In 1924, he joined the New York Symphony Orchestra under Willem Mengelberg and continued with the orchestra after its merger as the New York Philharmonic until 1949.*

## **\*\* Jean Pierre Guignon**

1702 - 1775

Italy (later France)

Important Activity:

At first a cellist, but switched to violin and totally abandoned the cello ! Later in service of king Louis XIV 'Violons du Roi'....

Born in Turin, Guignon was the son of a merchant from this city and a disciple of Giovanni Battista Somis. He gave his first performance in Paris in 1725. He became a musician in the chapel of the Prince of Savoie-Carignan in 1730, a position he retained for about 20 years. At the same time, he was admired by the queen and also entered the royal chapel in 1733, where he remained until his pension in 1762. In 1741, King Louis XV granted him French nationality and the title of "Royal Master of the Menetriers". Guignon thus supervised the singers and dancers of the kingdom, officially becoming the first violin of the time.

A number of his sonatas and duos were published, but unfortunately his violin concertos, masses and other compositions were not printed. Guignon died in Versailles aged 71.

**\*\* John Gun**

1765 - 1824

Britain

Important Activity:

cellist and writer

*Music/Publications:*

*Published formerly important Cello method in 1793, republished in 1794.*

**\*\* Isadore Gusikoff**

1900 - 1962

USA

Important Activity:

Principal cello Philadelphia Orchestra. Helper of Stokowski's All-American Youth Orchestra.

*Anecdotes:*

*\* Brother of violinist Mishel (also Philadelphia Orchestra). Isadore was principal of Philadelphia during 4 years, but did not get on with conductor Eugene Ormandy, who fired him!*