

The World's Only Global Musical Instrument Museum

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Celebrate all things Italian during the final weekend of "Stradivarius: Origins and Legacy of the Greatest Violin Maker" June 4 & 5

PHOENIX (May 17, 2016)—The time has come for the [Musical Instrument Museum's](#) (MIM) one-of-a-kind exhibition "[Stradivarius: Origins and Legacy of the Greatest Violin Maker](#)" to close and MIM is ending the exhibition with an exciting cadenza!

On June 4 and 5, come to MIM and "Experience Italy" with music, culture, food and more. Delight in an Italian Clarinet Classics performance as well as a violin and fiddle show. Enjoy Italian string music, learn about Italian violins and hear the interplay of violin and guitar in a special musical presentation.

Learn about the Italian city of Cremona and its long history of violin making from Virginia Villa, director general of the Museo del Violino, and Paolo Bodini, president of the Friends of Stradivari. Be hands-on with a toe-tap piano and try making an Italian accordion. Don't miss the delicious Italian-inspired food items for sale at Café Allegro, including minestrone vegetable soup, saffron risotto with wild mushrooms and cannoli.

On the **evening of June 5**, the closing night of the *Stradivarius* exhibition, guests will have the **opportunity to hear the "Artôt-Alard" violin**, created by **Antonio Stradivari in 1728**, played by **Endre Balogh** live in concert. Balogh, owner of the violin, has performed as a soloist with the Berlin Philharmonic, Rotterdam Philharmonic, and Basel Symphony. He will be accompanied by classical guitarist and composer Brian Head.

June 4 and 5 is the **last chance** for guests to see the *Stradivarius* exhibition, displaying **five historical instruments** from the 16th to the early 19th century and **five contemporary masterworks** from Europe and America representing the ongoing legacy of the Cremonese violin-making method. This exhibition also includes a **selection of tools and designs** from the workshop of Antonio Stradivari, which are rarely on display outside of Cremona.

The *Stradivarius* exhibition is presented in partnership with two Cremona-based institutions **Museo del Violino** and the **Friends of Stradivari**. Representatives of both came for the installation and opening of the exhibition. Now, both organizations return to help with the de-installation of these magnificent instruments.

Admission

"Stradivarius: Origins and Legacy of the Greatest Violin Maker" is **\$7** with paid museum admission and **\$10** for the exhibition itself.

Activities and performances of "Experience Italy" are included with paid museum admission.



MUSICAL INSTRUMENT MUSEUM

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Concert details:

[Endre Balogh and Brian Head](#)

Saturday, June 5 | 7 p.m.

Tickets: \$30.50—\$38.50

About Museo del Violino and the Friends of Stradivari

The Museo del Violino has added a new page to the distinguished Cremonese violin history by providing a center where the legacy of violin making and some of its most extraordinary masterpieces can be shared with the world. The Friends of Stradivari is an international network that brings together collectors, museums, dealers, artists and lovers of the Cremonese classical violin-making tradition. It provides opportunities for masterpieces not typically accessible to the public to be promoted, admired, studied and appreciated.

About MIM

The Musical Instrument Museum (MIM) enriches our world by collecting, preserving, and making accessible an astonishing variety of musical instruments and performance videos from every country in the world. MIM offers guests a welcoming and fun experience, incomparable interactive technology, dynamic programming, and exceptional musical performances. MIM fosters appreciation of the world's diverse cultures by showing how we innovate, adapt, and learn from each other to create music—the language of the soul.

The Musical Instrument Museum is located at 4725 E. Mayo Boulevard in Phoenix (corner of Tatum and Mayo Boulevards, just south of Loop 101). For general museum information and a full schedule of events, visit MIM.org or call 480.478.6000.

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Media Contact

Carlotta Soares, Media Relations Consultant, MIM

Carlotta.Soares@MIM.org

480.245.6937