

GEIGENBAU BIENNALE KRONBERG

JUNIOR VIOLIN MAKERS 2026

Following a call for under 30-year-old Junior Violin Makers, the Kronberg Academy is proud to introduce three young violin makers from three different violin making schools at this year's Violin Making Fair – Geigenbau Biennale Kronberg:



ELISE VELD

completed her studies at the Wood and Furniture College in Amsterdam, specializing in restoration, and apprenticed with a master of the Dutch Violin Makers' Guild. From an early age, Elise has had a deep affection for antiquities and history and since 2023 has dedicated herself entirely to the building of baroque violins. Elise crafts each instrument entirely by hand, as was once done: the neck fixed with nails, strung with gut strings, made from local woods, as was customary, without exotic or foreign materials. Drawing inspiration from the works of the old masters and building on the treasures of historical instruments, she produces an instrument not merely for

sound but as a mirror of her soul and devotion.

Elise Veldt, Purmerend, Holland

www.eveldtvioolbouw.nl, Instagram: @Elise_Veldt, elise13899@hotmail.com



ADRIAN PFEIFFER

completed his studies with honours at the Swiss Violin Making School, Brienz in 2023 and worked with violin maker and restorer Kogge & Gateau, Berlin and Ragnar Hayn in Berlin until 2026. His focus is on building violins, violas and celli following historic examples. Adrian takes great pleasure in crafting exact replicas – for example, the “Ex-Hart, Wanamaker” Guadagnini – but also builds fully varnished, unworn instruments, always staying true to historical models and methods. For instruments that do not claim to be exact copies, he likes to let his own taste and style shine through. He is currently collaborating on a copy of the “Leduc” del Gesu. Adrian teaches part-time at

the Swiss Violin Making School and is setting up his own workshop.

Adrian Pfeiffer, Brienz, Switzerland

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BEÑAT GURAYA

has been making instruments together with his father, luthier Javier Guraya, from an early age at his father's workshop in Getxo, Spain. He studied at the Violin Making School BELE, Bilbao. He worked with Anxo Cabreira, Gianmaria Stelzer and Christian Bayon. Always taking care of every detail, he especially focusses on the structures of instrument bodies that were built in the classical period. This process has given us the sound we are achieving now. Beñat currently works at the "Luis López Osés 18, bajo" workshop, making new instruments with power, resonance and each one with its representative tonal sound quality.

Beñat Guraya, Getxo (Bizkaja), Spain

Instagram: @benat2olinak, guraya0822@gmail.com

MEET MORE VIOLIN MAKERS



GEIGENBAU GEYER – DORIT SEILACHER & FLORIAN GEYER

For over 25 years, master violin makers Dorit Seilacher and Florian Geyer have been building violins, violas, and cellos for students, soloists, and amateur musicians. Both trained in Cremona and Mittenwald and subsequently worked in various workshops in the Netherlands, Austria, Germany, France, and New Zealand. Throughout this time, the craft of violin making has always been particularly close to their hearts. Their instruments have been awarded medals at international violin-making competitions in Cremona, Mittenwald, and Moscow. At

competitions, exhibitions, and workshops, they regularly exchange ideas with colleagues about new developments in violin making. Their violins, violas, and cellos are played both as solo instruments and in chamber music ensembles throughout Europe. Their latest cellos will be presented in Kronberg.

Dorit Seilacher and Florian Geyer

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