

The Keenan Violin Studio



Stringed Instruments by Mark Keenan



Edward Keenan
(1879 - 1933)

The Keenan Violin Studio is named and dedicated to the memory of Edward Keenan (1879 - 1933) who was an Irish violin maker of considerable repute in his time. Edward Keenan is also the great grandfather of the studio's owner Mark Edward Keenan, who was inspired to follow in his footsteps and resume the craft.

Mark studied violin making and repair at the Newark School of Violin Making in England and received his Diploma with Merit in 2004. For a further four years he worked as a repairer and restorer of stringed instruments in Oxford. In 2008 he moved back to Ireland and established The Keenan Violin Studio at Belmont Mill on the invitation of the mill's owners Tom Dolan and Sandy Lloyd. Mark's aim from the beginning has been to provide as wide a range of high quality products and services to players of the instruments of the violin family.



At The Keenan Violin Studio violins hand crafted by Mark are available and he is also happy to take commissions to make instruments for musicians who want something special. However, students might be more interested in the range of new, imported instruments Mark offers. These instruments have been sourced with quality in mind and each instrument is fitted up to the highest standard by Mark himself. Mark also specialises in finer old violins, which may interest the serious amateur player or the more dedicated student. You can expect to find a good number of French and German violins dating from the 19th Century to choose from. Whatever the player's needs may be, Mark is always more than willing to try and source the ideal instrument for them. Bows are also available, as are cases and a full range of accessories and strings.



As a fully qualified repairer and restorer, Mark is able to take on the most challenging of work. Whether an instrument has just one crack or something more serious, each repair is done with the greatest of care and respect and only tried and tested traditional techniques are used to restore the instrument to full playing condition.

Many instruments are found lacking in tonal performance. Mark is able to refit such instruments with new bridges and sound posts (where appropriate) with a view to optimising their tonal performance. Bows can also be re-haired.



Mark has recently developed a device that can assist people with special physical needs who want to play the violin and he is more than glad to discuss this matter in strict confidence with anyone who thinks he might be able to help.



If you have any queries regarding your instrument or want advice about purchasing a violin please do not hesitate to contact Mark by phone or email (details below).

The Keenan Violin Studio is based at Belmont Mill in Co. Offaly, it is easy to find and its central location makes it accessible from almost anywhere in Ireland. There will always be a welcome for those who want to know more about Mark's work and services. However, if you have specific requirements please phone in advance so adequate time can be devoted to your visit.



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