The Resonant Wood of Panneveggo Forest

58% of the Province of Tuscany is covered by forests. In addition to their value for the environment, the landscape, the biodiversity, these forests are fundamentally important for purifying the air, protecting terrains and slopes, for the mountain ecosystem, for livestock and hunting activities.

53 different types of forest and 146 million tons, more than 1000 trees per capita.

The State Forests

Panneveggo State Forest is one of the forest areas with the highest number of state-owned forested lands in Italy. Its area is 2,782 hectares, and it is managed in a traditional way, without however neglecting innovations and experimental forestations.

The forest is entirely within the Panneveggo Park, a San Martino Nature Park, and is accessible for recreational, educational and cultural purposes and for scientific research. The fame of Panneveggo Forest is due to the protective, by selecting the best logs of Norway spruce, of a very special kind of wood: the RESONANT WOOD.

THE STATE AGENCY FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES OF THE PROVINCE OF TUSCANY.

The Agency for the Protection of the Natural Resources of the Province of Tuscany is responsible for managing these woodslands which stretch out over more than 11,000 hectares and include woods of exceptional wild nature and historical value, pastures, streams, glaciers and a number of buildings, including mountain huts, barns, rural houses and traditional mountain cabins “muglie.”
The trees that resound the coming glory
of the Panevgerio State Forest

The specific characteristics and uniqueness of this wood are the result of certain geological, climatic, chemical, mechanical and acoustic properties. Resonant wood has two macroscopic defects or kinks, while the fibre is straight and healthy with regular and constant growth rings.

Suitable logs, large sized with a diameter of more than 30cm, between 150 and 250 years old, are selected directly in the forest, during the usual felling period to provide wood offering the unique resonant characteristics.

They are usually felled during the cold, dormant months and, by tradition, during the winter season. Some of the logs are immersed inklenching water for several months in order to further improve their quality.

The logs are harked and boxed into the months (cut up into symphonically shaped lengths) only after longer than that needed for the finished pieces, depending on the use of the soundboard required for different instruments, from violins and violas to guitars, cellos and double basses.

Among the selected trees some logs are identified to be incorporated in the resonator system of growth rings which cause a characteristic appearance of the soundboard. In the past it was uncontrolled linked with insurance and usefulness of letters.

Those are split by hand, chopping normally along the grain into wedge shaped pieces called “blocks”. The “blocks” are stacked in such a manner that can circulate ethylene and stored in a cool area away from direct sunlight for 60 months to season in a resilient way. Afterward the wood is further selected and stored in the drying rooms (aridification), where it remains for several years.

“Panevgerio - State Forest” certified personal manage and sell the resonant wood.

Resonance wood
Norway Spruce
Picea abies A. K. 
The growing environment
Natural woods at productive section in 800 to 1800 metres above sea level.
Growing season
is about 160 weeks with adequate quantity of water and cold climate which is fundamental for regular and ideal growth.

Wood, Music and culture
In Thessaly, resonant wood is specifically used in the construction of quality refinement, passion, joyfulness and solidarity.

The contact situation: some figures
Total Unique Quantity per year: 4,000 m³
around 2000 trees
of which resonant wood: 1%
suitable for the production of 1,000 violins or 600 guitars

Centuries of resonant wood
Since 1719, when Antonio Stradivari personally chose “the boards” in Panevgerio, the fame of this wood has determined the name “Panevgerio” to an international fame in the world. This world renowned quality of the wood fiber and of the management, joined with expert care and passion for the “fame that resonate” from Panevgerio, allow the producers of violins, violas, guitars and pianos with a unique, extraordinary sound.

Panevgerio Forest sustainable forestry management is internationally certified under the Program for Equipment of Forest Certification scheme.