

C. Bruno & Son

New York City

- 1806 Charles Bruno born in Germany (census)
- 1832 Bruno emigrates to Macon, Georgia (imm. Record)
- 1834 Bruno moves to New York City; one instrument has been found with "Since 1834" on the bell
- 1837 listed under books, 212 Fulton St. (directory)
- 1838-39 Martin & Bruno, 212 Fulton, with C.F. Martin (dir)
- 1840-48 not listed in NYC directory
- 1845 son Charles Jr. is born in December
- 1848 son Richard is born in March (lifelong lawyer)
- 1849 now at 92 E. 15th St., merchant (dir)
- 1850 Bruno & Cargill, musical inst, 62 Liberty St. (dir)
- 1851-53 Bruno & Cargill, 47 Maiden Lane, French & German instruments including brass (dir)
- 1854-57 Bruno, Weissenborn & Co., 2 Maiden Ln, Herman Weis.
- 1858-59 Charles Bruno, musical inst, 2 Maiden Ln (dir)
- 1860-63 Bruno & Morris, mi, 2 Maiden Ln, Richard Morris
- 1864-65 Charles Bruno, mi, 203 Broadway (dir)
- 1866-67 Ch. Bruno, 581 Broadway, agent for C.F. Martin
- 1868-81 C. Bruno & Son, 4 Cortlandt St, w/Charles, Jr.
- 1879 Charles F. Bruno is born to Richard
- 1882 C. Bruno & Son, 10 Cortlandt St. (dir)
- 1883-91 now at 54 Maiden Lane & 29 Liberty St. (dir)
- 1884 Charles Sr. dies in March
- 1886 catalog lists three grades of brass instruments; top is Henry Pourcelle, Paris; middle Perinet valve; low is Berliner valve; all probably European imports
- 1897 Charles F. Bruno, 356 Broadway, importer (dir)
- 1900-02 C. Bruno & Son, 356 Broadway (dir)
- 1912 Charles Jr. dies April 17th
- 1918-30 now at 351-53 4th Ave. (dir)
- 1920 Charles F. Bruno, sec-tres of musical inst co (census)



1941 now at 460 W. 34th St. (phone book)

1971 sold to Kaman Music Corp.

Bruno Instrument Models:

1. Henry Pourcelle, Paris, late 19th to early 20th cent.; this is not the actual maker but rather a trade name; early brass are marked “Henry Pourcelle Paris”; later ones are marked “C Bruno & Son Henry Pourcelle” which are probably all made by B&F (photos 1&2 p.1 author’s collection)
2. Lafayette, Paris
3. Perfacktone; B&F in Czechoslovakia, c.1920
4. Perfection; some US made, others B&F, early 1900s
5. LaVesta, Paris; c.1900
6. Vocotone
7. Special Grade; numerous examples, B&F, c.1900-1920
8. Royal Artist; B&F, c.1920s
9. C. Bruno & Sons Inc.; no model name, Austria, c.1900

B&F = Bohland & Fuchs

This company became B&F in 1870 and was located in Grazlitz, Austria. Instruments made before 1918 will say “Austria”. Those made from 1918-1920 may read “Czecho-Slovakia” then from 1920-1938 would be “Czechoslovakia”. Instruments made before 1891 do not have to be marked with a country of origin so they may be harder to trace.

Early Bruno instruments may have no markings as I have seen nothing older than the Pourcelle cornet shown in the top photo which may be from the 1880s. I have often found brass instruments just marked “Austria” or “B&F” which could have been sold by Bruno or many other dealers. The mark is usually found on the center valve and probably dates them to after 1891 when the US law required it. Later country of origin marks are almost always found on the bottom of the lead pipe inlet.

Photos from Horn-u-copia.net or auction sales unless noted

